■ SPECTRUM

West Germany's youngest detective goes on duty with a pram



Eva Sippel at work (Photo: Co...)

She's pretty, 24, and looks rather tender and perhaps a little diffident. But first impressions are deceptive. This energetic young woman lays claim to being West Germany's youngest detective.

She's courageous. It was her idea three years ago to open a private detective agency in Eppendorf, Hamburg together with her husband, a formal naval officer who had experience of detective work in Canada.

Now the couple handle about one thousand cases every year. They charge between twenty and 200 Marks per hour depending on the nature of the work. Their range of equipment is extensive, including infra-red spy glasses and radar tracking equipment.

The range of cases they handle varies from arson to smuggling. One of their most important tasks is dealing with industrial espionage. They have also had to deal with cases of murder.

At the moment the Sippels are working on three murders where the casebooks are about to be reopened by the police. Their job is to hunt down new witnesses and new evidence for the prosecution. Quite often they both come before the courts as witnesses.

One in four of the cases they deal with involves a marriage. Eva Sippel is not too fond of this work. She said: "I have to deal with these cases in the main." Nevertheless the Sippel detective agency never refuses to take on a case. They have ten assistants to help them out. But they take on the most difficult assignments themselves. Three stores have signed them on as security supervirsors. Asked which of the marital bustups had been the worst from her point of view Eva Sippel said: "One day a man rang up, saying his wife wanted to divorce him. But he could not agree to this since their ten year-old daughter had an incurable illness. He wanted to find out who his wife's new lover was so that he could talk matters over with him."

So Mrs Sippel began the watching game. One evening she spotted the woman and her boyfriend at a dance-hall. She phoned the husband, who came to the scene immediately. But unfortunately the couple who had been caught in the act would not listen to sense.

A terrible row ensued and it was clear that no reconciliation was possible. As a detective Eva Sippel had done her job, but as for saving the marriage she had probably been the worst possible mistake.

A detective has to be proficient in a number of jobs. Eva Sippel took training in sales techniques and did three years "apprenticeship" in various detective agencies. She has worked as a salegirl, a cosmetics adviser, a florist, a hairdresser, a maid and a waitress.

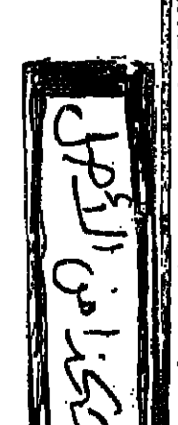
She said: "You have to have played several parts. Sooner or later you need a good disguise and could ruin things if your acting is not too good."

For the detective couple it was relatively simple to play the role of employees in an electrical goods wholesalers. But their job in the firm was not so simple. The company had suffered losses of 200,000 Marks. Although they put everything under a microscope the Sippels could find no irregularities. They finally decided they should keep a watch on the shop and warehouse at night as well as in working hours. They observed suspicious characters removing empty crates and cartons from the rubbish tip, or so it seemed. On closer inspection they discovered the supposedly empty containers were filled with valuable electrical goods that had been left there by workers during the daytime. The work of a private detective is full of painstaking minutiae. Those who hope for the mad whirl of a James Bond type career are in for a disappointment. Nevertheless it can be dodgy when someone realises he is being shadowed. Some people react aggressively, but Eva Sippel feels quite confident with five years of judo training behind her, eyes like a hawk and an airgun. The most important part of her kind of work is to look inconspicuous.

Are there particular difficulties for a woman private detective? "Not at all," she answered with a smile. "It is a good thing for a woman to take [illegible] chase. Who would think that a[illegible] woman was a private detective?

"If I want to look the pic[illegible] innocence I take my two children [illegible] me. They are three and four and [illegible] in a car or a playground waiting [illegible] somebody they provide the p[illegible] cover." *Karin...*

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 26 Februa[ry])



The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 30 March 1972
Eleventh Year - No. 520 - By air

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Pompidou adopts pragmatic approach to the EEC



Pompidou's Europe differs from de Gaulle's Europe in exactly the same way as the present French head of state differs from his predecessor, in the main, that is, by his pragmatism.

The crucial change that M. Pompidou has permitted to be made to General de Gaulle's concept is the admission of Britain to the Common Market.

The change has been necessitated because, as France has come to realise and M. Pompidou himself put it at his last press conference, Britain could not stay outside the EEC for all time.

He immediately added that, also at his own investigation, everything had been done to ensure that the Community retained the principal features the General had held dear.

This applies not only to the special characteristics of the common agricultural market, financial solidarity, uniform agricultural prices and large-scale agricultural protectionism, but also to what he chose to call respect for the personality of nations. Paris used to talk in terms of a *Europe de patries*, of nation-states.

London had to be forced to accept the rules and regulations of the common agricultural market. Respect for the personality of nations is something Britain already possesses and this is a quality that the French President particularly appreciates.

On this point the *entente cordiale* will no doubt function quite well within the larger Common Market.

In order to enable Europe to play its part in world affairs a political will is what, according to M. Pompidou, is mainly required.

The inherent sense of the French for clarity and realism did, he said, occasionnally lead to France staking out stages and limits. But, M. Pompidou added, France and its partners were completely agreed on the eventual target.

France would certainly not allow itself to be outdone in this respect by any other country. The French President no doubt found this assurance a good deal easier to make now that Britain has signed on the dotted line.

In point of fact M. Pompidou stepped down ever so slightly at his last press conference. He now terms his earlier suggestion that each member-government should appoint a Minister for European Affairs a relatively distant eventuality.

For the time being, he now says, the Community should make do with having Secretaries of State for European Affairs attached to the Foreign Ministries.

The political secretariat of the EEC, which according to M. Pompidou ought to be set up in Paris, is to be at the service of EEC Foreign Ministers. France continues to take a dim view of efforts to concentrate power in Brussels.

France's referendum on the expansion of the Common Market is if anything a domestic move by the French President.

Less than a year before the next general election M. Pompidou will secure a broad basis of approval on a major issue, thus causing the Socialists, who at present are negotiating a joint Opposition policy line with the Communists, no mean embarrassment.

The sole risk involved in the plebiscite idea is, put in a rather exaggerated nutshell, that good weather on the day of the referendum will result in a shamingly low poll.

The French will certainly not vote against the accession of Britain, Ireland, Denmark and Norway to the Common Market. This much is clear from the start.

M. Pompidou's pragmatic concept of Europe is further reminiscent of General de Gaulle's in that France is seen as playing a, indeed the major role in the Community.

The General, not a man of compromise, had mainly been opposed to British membership of the EEC because he viewed it as a threat to French leadership of the Community.

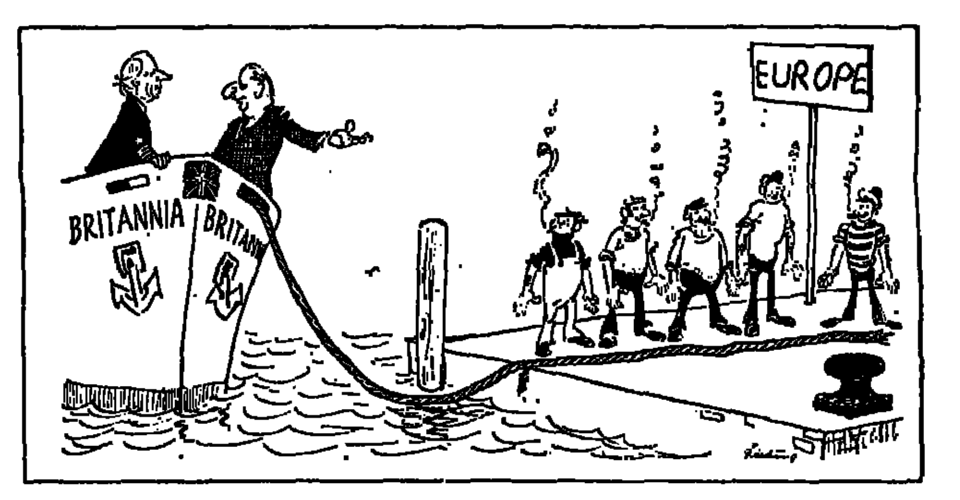
Pompidou, the realist, realising that Britain could not stay out for all time, is now proving far from unsuccessful in gaining Britain as an ally within the Common Market and thus attaining the role of an impartial arbiter within the enlarged Community. This, let it be added, is a role that suits pragmatist Pompidou to a tee.

Has progress been achieved in Europe since the resignation of General de Gaulle? It is hard to say. In recent years it has become only too clear that many of the General's rigid stands were but passing moments.

Pragmatic solutions, on the other hand, not intended to last for all time in any case, are in principle less resistant to changes in time and opinion. But in the words of an old French proverb they often prove long-lived. *Gustav Ferber*

(Handelsblatt, 20 March 1972)

IN THIS ISSUE



My matelots will moor you to Europe, if you like!

(Cartoon: Hartung/Die Welt)

Common Market needs two-year programmes, Haferkamp proposes



The European Community ought to set itself two-year plan targets subject to regular periodic review by the European Parliament with the Council of Ministers and the European Commission in attendance.

This proposal was made to the European Parliament in Strasbourg by Wilhelm Haferkamp, the German vice-president of the EEC Commission, in the course of a debate on increasing the efficacy of European institutions.

Adaptation of European institutions to cater for the needs of the enlarged Community will be one of the main topics for discussion at the Common Market summit conference in the second half of October next.

In its recent resolutions on an economic and monetary union the EEC Council of Ministers made similar proposals for the first time. The Ministers also undertook to come to a decision on the Commission's taxation standardisation proposals within a specified period of time.

According to Haferkamp cooperation between the European and national parliaments could be improved to the extent that major joints issues could be debated simultaneously in all national assemblies.

In a discussion between European parliamentarians and national MPs the urgent need for direct election of European MPs and democratic control of EEC decisions was again unanimously stressed.

(Die Welt, 17 March 1972)

Pompidou and Heath hit it off well

President Pompidou's unofficial visit to Chequers has confirmed how well he and Mr Heath get on. The surprise announcement of the French referendum on expansion of the Common Market cast hardly a shadow on what was a sunny weekend at Chequers. The new entente cordiale has evidently been consolidated to such an extent that it can easily bear the brunt of slight misunderstandings.

M. Pompidou's visit was characterised by a marked informality fitting for friends with the same interests. It was a matter of the shape Europe is to take and the considerable influence Anglo-French cooperation will exert on it. At Chequers a further note of cordiality was sounded in the common approach.

Now that the French have at last accepted the British as partners in the European venture the mutual hostility of the de Gaulle era has swiftly evaporated.

Pompidou and Heath have discovered that the basic lines of their European policies to a large extent coincide and feel that the differences of opinion that still separate them — the entire complex of European defence, for instance — are best left to their own devices for the time being.

As for shorter-term targets the wishes and views of the two countries may not be the same in all respects but plans are first and foremost dominated by the will to find a common viewpoint.

Their views diverge most, for instance, on the assessment of the prospects of success of a European security conference. Britain's scepticism is acting as a considerable brake on French verve. In this and other sectors the entente has yet to prove its worth.

Eurpoean domestic problems, however, especially the forging of expanded European unity over and above the economic sector, will have been the main topic at Chequers.

Mr Heath recently set a ten-year target for the formulation of a common European foreign policy. The Prime Minister thinks in far-reaching categories of this kind. Unless the signs are deceptive he has found in M. Pompidou a fellow-European for whom Mr Heath's ideas neatly complement France's. *Fritz Heimplätzer*

(Bremer Nachrichten, 20 March 1972)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Skilful diplomacy has restored Arab confidence in Bonn

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Normalisation of relations with the Middle East is proving less of a problem for Bonn than a return to normal in ties with neighbouring Eastern Europe.

Political parties in Bonn by no means agree on the terms of treaty arrangements with the Eastern Bloc and debate rages on the Moscow and Warsaw treaties.

In relations with Israel and the Arab countries the Foreign Office has, over the same period of time, made unspectacular but undeniable progress.

Arab unity is not the hardiest of plants and the rot set in last year. Now, at long last, the Arab League has officially given its members the go-ahead to resume diplomatic relations with Bonn.

The League had virtually no choice in the matter. Had it not agreed to the policy change it would have been effected in practice over the next few months by one member-country after another and the halo of Arab solidarity would have paled still further.

The Foreign Office is not overestimating this budding spring in relations between this country and the Arab world. Bonn is patiently awaiting the next Arab moves. It was the Arabs who broke off diplomatic relations with Bonn in 1965 and it is they who must make the first formal move.

There are good reasons for assuming that Egypt, the first Arab country to break with Bonn in 1965, will be approaching this country in the near future.

Without mentioning names the Foreign Office is hinting that it is prepared to make one of the few demonstrative diplomatic moves that are feasible in this day and age and appoint a high-ranking figure as the new ambassador in Cairo.

This is not a vote of no confidence in chargé d'affaires Jesser, who at a time in which Bonn was not officially represented in the Egyptian capital skilfully ensured that this country was not forgotten altogether in Cairo.

It is not in accord with diplomatic custom, the argument runs, to upgrade one's own envoy in a situation of this kind.

A further demonstrative move now that Bonn has launched an attempt to improve its reputation of being a pro-Zionist Arab bogyman would be for Foreign Minister Walter Scheel to visit Cairo in the course of his travels.

This is not felt to be out of the question but in view of domestic difficulties Herr Scheel is understandably reluctant to plan so far ahead – and be it only until the autumn.

Domestic reasons no doubt also account for the intransigent attitude of Syria, Iraq and South Yemen, though these countries may of course feel politically more doctrinaire and, moreover, slightly neglected by Bonn.

Even so, Aden proved most obliging during the recent hijacking of a Lufthansa Boeing 747.

These three countries, then, may still be a little recalcitrant. Tunisia and Morocco, always better disposed towards this country, seem to be enjoying their political head's start to the full.

Walter Scheel has deliberately limited his current visit to these two North African countries. He wants to make it unmistakeably clear that their attitude has paid dividends and that Bonn now feels particularly well disposed towards them.

Algeria, obviously eager not to miss the boat, has just agreed to the appointment of Herr Moltmann as this country's new ambassador in Algiers.

All are hoping that the return to normal in diplomatic relations will result in an improvement in economic ties between Bonn and the Arab world.

The break-off of diplomatic relations may not have had much effect on normal trade but the drawbacks became apparent when Bonn "froze" development aid and the Arab countries noticed that credit was more difficult to obtain.

Bonn is certainly now willing to effect a change in this state of affairs.

A number of Arab countries are none too enthusiastic about overrating the importance of economic and financial considerations. This is not just a matter of understandable self-esteem.

Relations were broken off in 1965 because Bonn, the Arabs felt, was intensifying its contacts with Israel and the break was made regardless of economic considerations.

Thus the Arab countries maintain that a return to normal has only been rendered possible by Bonn credibly making it clear that Israel is not being given preferential treatment at their expense.

The Common Market countries' resolution on the Middle East started the ball rolling, they maintain.

The Arab countries have meanwhile come to realise that a balance includes good relations with Israel as a matter of course from Bonn's point of view.

The Bonn Foreign Office has successfully and determinedly avoided the intricacies of international political pitfalls and come to a welcome understanding with the Arab world.

Sten Martenson

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 16 March 1972)

King Hussein makes a start to resolve Mid-East crisis

Until a few months ago everyone felt that only a compromise between Egypt and Israel would start the ball rolling towards peace in the Middle East. It has always been clear that King Hussein of Jordan would come next.

Times change. Now Jordan has come to the fore. King Hussein would like to see a semi-autonomous state of Palestine on the West Bank linked in a federation with the Transjordan.

Any attempt at common sense in the Middle East, no matter how feeble, is deserving of encouragement and King Hussein's move could be a signal for the entire Arab world.

Hussein knows full well, however, that no progress can be made without Israel's consent and one wonders how seriously his proposals are meant.

It could be that his intention is merely to influence the local elections in the territories occupied by Israel, the people there having by now realised that the Israelis are not ogres even if they may not be friends.

The Israelis are certainly not prepared to countenance Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine. They are not satisfied with the present unofficial contacts either. If there is to be peace they want at long last to negotiate directly with representatives of the Jordanian government.

It is not yet clear how serious King Hussein's attempt to start the ball rolling is. Maybe it is only a grand gesture. But maybe it is more, or at least a start.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 16 March 1972)

East Europe banks on China as Soviet pressure mounts

Moscow is growing increasingly [...]vous about China, and [...] Soviet Union cannot do much abou[t] Chinese colossus it is turning the [...] in Eastern Europe.

Two articles, one in *International[...]* the Moscow monthly, and the [...] written by Hermann Axen of East [Ber]lin's SED, in *Pravda*, augur ill for [...]nia in particular.

A communist country that ignores [...] crucial role of the Soviet Union i[n] struggle for socialism risks "extr[...] serious consequences," the first [...] states.

What may this mean? Necessary [...]quences to which the Soviet Union [...] contribute nothing but would regr[et] unfortunately be unable to prevent [...] consequences brought about by [...] cow politbureau decision like the [...] August 1968 that led to the invasi[on of] Czechoslovakia?

Eastern Europe has experience in [...] kind of situation. Great store has be[en] by China of late as Soviet pressur[e] increased and the countries in jeop[...] have grown increasingly powerless.

These hopes are unfounded. Wha[t on] earth can China do in Eastern Euro[pe?] Yet even hopes of this kind can rep[...] political potential.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Ze[itung] für Deutschland, 14 March [...])

Moscow and trea[ty] ratification

Moscow has embarked on ratific[ation] of the treaty with Bonn [...] has been approved by the Council [of] Ministers and submitted for approv[al to] the Supreme Soviet.

The presidium of the Supreme So[viet] has referred the draft to the fo[reign] affairs commissions of the Soviet pa[rlia]ment. The full assembly of the Sup[reme] Soviet cannot decide matters, how[ever.] The 32-member presidium is the [...] body entitled to ratify internati[onal] agreements.

The 1,517 deputies do not need a [...] of the draft for discussion. They [...] meet twice a year for three- or fou[r] meetings anyway, the next being [sche]duled for June or July.

In formal terms the presidium [...] only needs the go-ahead from the fo[reign] affairs committees, which of course [...] for the asking. When Bonn comes [...] decision Moscow will follow suit.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zei[tung] für Deutschland, 15 March [...])

It is clear from the foreign policy pronouncements of President Nixon and Secretary of State Rogers that Mr Nixon is expecting his visit to Moscow in May to result in the announcement of a limited and temporary agreement as the outcome of the years of talks on strategic arms limitation.

Nixon may find the going rough in Moscow

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

The first point on which agreement can be reached is a mutual restriction on anti-missile systems, or so previous announcements at Salt talks in Vienna and Helsinki would seem to indicate.

In order to forestall an anti-missile system arms race anti-missile shields are only to protect command centres and launching pads, to maintain counter-strike potential, that is. The two sides are reputed to have agreed to allow each other a maximum of 200 anti-missile missiles.

In addition, or so it would seem, temporary agreement is to be reached on a limitation on certain offensive weapons.

Further agreement would seem at present to be out of the question since it is difficult to assess the relative merits of various offensive weapons, be they land-based multiple-warhead missiles, missiles with an even higher explosive power than the normal run, nuclear submarines, bombers and the entire range of medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons.

The Soviet Union, for instance, would like to include American missiles in Europe in an agreement but is not prepared to consider restrictions on medium-range missiles based on Soviet territory.

Some of the problems involved could be dealt with by the proposed talks on a mutual balanced force reduction in Europe but the Soviet Union has yet to give this idea a clear go-ahead.

The Nato countries, with the exception of France, would like to see these talks held as soon as possible and independently of the European security conference advocated by the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union, on the other hand, would seem to argue that the talks can only be staged after agreement by the Foreign Ministers to set up a sub-section of the security conference to do the talking.

It remains to be seen whether Mr Nixon can achieve more than he has so far been able to in the course of his personal visit to the Soviet capital.

The Soviet Union, when all is said and done, can still hope to play off against each other the force reduction interests of the United States, Nato and neutral countries in Europe.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 13 March 1972)

The German Tribune

Publisher: Friedrich Reinecke. Managing Editor: Otto Heinz. Editor: Alexander K[...]. English language sub-editor: Geoffrey P[...]. Distribution Manager: Georgine von P[...].

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH, 23 Sch[öne] Aussicht, Hamburg 76. Tel.: 2 28 51. Telex: 02 14733. Bonn bureau: Konrad Kadlubowski, 66 Adenauerallee, 53 Bonn. Tel.: 22 61 5[...] Telex: 08 86398.

Advertising rates list No. 9 — Annual subscription DM 25.

Printed by Krögers Buch- und Verlagsdruckerei, Hamburg-Blankenese. Distributed in the USA by: MASS MAILINGS, Inc. 640 West [...] Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

All articles which THE GERMAN TRIBUNE reprint are published in cooperation with the editorial staffs of leading newspapers of the Federal Republic of Germany. They are complete translations of the original text, in no way abridged nor editorially redrafted. THE GERMAN TRIBUNE also publishes a Quarterly Review and a Supplement, articles selected from German periodicals.

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■ POLITICS

CDU/CSU are united in opposition, but probably not so friendly in government



Many politicians on the Opposition benches would have liked more time, but the CDU/CSU have been forced to present their team to the public and also publish the political programme they will have to offer if there should be new elections.

Of course the most important figures in a future CDU Cabinet are well-known faces: Rainer Barzel would be the Chancellor, Franz Joseph Strauss would be Vice-Chancellor as well as Finance Minister, Karl-Heinz Narjes, a newcomer, would be responsible for economic affairs, Gerhard Schröder would head the Foreign Ministry and the Minister for Labour and Social Welfare would be Hans Katzer.

Helmut Schmidt's Defence Ministry would pass to Manfred Wörner, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (at present Käthe Strobel) would be taken over by Helga Wex and the Ministry of Economic Cooperation (development aid) at present headed by Erhard Eppler would be taken over by Walther Leisler-Kiep. Richard Stücklen would relieve Georg Leber of his responsibilities for posts, telecommunications and transport.

These are the names that the public is already familiar with and which fall naturally into this or that ministry where *their* talents would be best used. But other pairings of minister and ministry are not so clear-cut. Can the name von Weizsäcker really be linked with the Ministry of Inter-German Relations, even though he has gained stature and political importance in the CDU/CSU in the past two years of opposition?

No name immediately springs to mind for the Ministry of Science and Education and though Carl-H. Lenz seems to have the best chance of winning the post in the Ministry of Justice at present held by Gerhard Jahn this has by no means been decided.

The Chairman of the party in Hesse, Alfred Dregger, is bound to turn up somewhere in the Cabinet if the CDU/CSU replace the present government. Many Christian Democrats are disturbed by the fact that Dregger views the fight against crime and against political radical movements as two sides of the same coin and that he is striving for a place in the Ministry of the Interior. They feel that this could be damaging to the image of their party in the eyes of the general public.

Another factor that must be taken into consideration when predicting the shape of a Barzel Cabinet is the Bavarian element. At the present moment the only thing that is clear is that the Christian Social Union will not be happy with less than four Cabinet positions.

Strauss and Stücklen have booked their tickets already, but who the other representatives of the Bavarian wing of the conservatives would be is at present undecided. Among the names that are being bandied around Höcherl, Wagner and Dollinger stick out.

There is no lack of pretenders to office and honour in the ranks of the CDU/CSU. What will happen to such as Mikat, Marx, Windelen and Wrangel – able politicians all of them, and at present doing sterling work for the parliamentary party?

Which brings us to another important point – who will take over the vital role of leader of the parliamentary party. The impressive show that the CDU/CSU have put up in the Bundestag in these years of opposition tends to make us forget that they do suffer from a shortage of personnel. At any rate when compared with the present government's ministers the CDU/CSU "shadow Cabinet" seems to be rather lightweight.

Probably, if the government falls, the CDU/CSU will find that building up a Cabinet capable of carrying out its duties efficienty is not its most difficult task What may prove toughter is making the necessary adjustments for the changeover from opposition to government benches.

One thing the present Opposition has presumably learnt from the present government is how NOT to make a statement of government policy!

Those who have followed Rainer Barzel's speeches in the past few weeks and months would expect his statement of government policy and the actual policy that followed it to be on the lines of "blood, sweat and tears".

As far as foreign policy is concerned the CDU/CSU would have to do all in their power to head off the threat of isolation of the Federal Republic. The most important instrument in the Western world's scheme for sticking together is the Berlin agreement. It is not merely by chance that Rainer Barzel has always tried to keep the Bonn treaty-making policies and the Berlin agreement apart and quite separate.

It is certain that even if the Moscow and Warsaw Treaties are not ratified the Western powers will have a vital interest in at least upholding the Berlin agreement. Thus we may expect that criticism of the Berlin agreement within the ranks of the "union parties" will be blunted.

It is most likely that the Opposition will withdraw to a position of stating that the Berlin agreement is the work of the Western Allies and therefore should not be attacked for the sake of this country's alliance with the West.

The CDU/CSU seem to be putting a lot of money on the assumption that the Berlin agreement is dear also to the Soviet Union and that the Russians would be prepared to sever the link between Berlin and Moscow/Warsaw if these treaties are thrown out.

And the present Opposition is obviously pinning a lot of hopes on the Soviet desire for a European security conference. If Moscow should refuse to implement the Berlin agreement their hopes of a security conference would be severely diminished.

It seems that the CDU/CSU is prepared to forget its objections to the European security conference idea and that it will state its approval of the idea in principle in a statement of government policy, but of course will make this dependent on the Berlin agreement being implemented.

Thus the "union parties" are trying on the one hand to avoid being a disruptive force in cordial relations with the West, while, as a potential governing party, to keep all the roads to Moscow and other Communist Bloc States open as far as possible.

Thus a CDU-led government would also presumably state its peaceful intentions and willingness to come to the conference table at all times and would make offers of economic and cultural cooperation.

As far as relations with Poland are concerned we should not rule out the possibility that if the CDU/CSU come to power they will make a statement regarding the Oder-Neisse line which is not so very different from the provisions made in the Warsaw Treaty.

But government policies will be conceived in a quite different way from the ideas that are being put into the heads of voters by some of the Hotspurs in the Opposition ranks. It is quite a different matter whether the policies will be implemented in quite such a moderate form as is now being suggested by far-sighted Opposition politicians.

The spectres that the CDU/CSU have summoned up to help them in the fight against the treaties will not be laid all that easily if the CDU/CSU come to power.

There will without doubt be tough battles within the CDU and CSU. And many a perplexed citizen of the Federal Republic will enquire why the conservatives condemned so vehemently as an opposition party what they intend to carry on with a slightly modified form as a government party.

It may well turn out that many a faithful voter for the CDU/CSU will feel he is being taken for a ride. The present Opposition still has obviously not come up with a reasonable alternative to the present government's Ostpolitik.

It is possible that such disappointed voters may be appeased by the CDU/CSU's domestic policy programme. In this sphere too they are unable to forge ahead with all the things they would like to do.

Of course they are not obliged to moderate their desires by the interests of any allies or the countries of Eastern Europe, but Rainer Barzel is obviously shrewd enough to realise that if he steers too far to the right in his domestic policies the CDU/CSU's chances at the next regular general election in 1973 will be diminished. The moves that politicians thought were wise and necessary when they were in opposition often appear to be impractical to them when they have taken over the government.

The first thing a Barzel/Strauss government would be likely to proclaim is a programme of austerity. Their motto would be: cut corners and save! But the CDU/CSU also claim to reform parties and want to give the impression of caring about social welfare, so they will face the same budgetary problems as the Brandt/Scheel government.

If the Christian Democrats and Christian Socialists come to power many of the accents will be changed. When it comes to social welfare policy the CDU/CSU will place greater emphasis on general pension increases that the introduction of a flexible age of retirement and they will probably place greater emphasis on promoting the schemes for the accumulating of capital wealth in private hands.

But these plans also cost money. So in the long run a CDU/CSU government would not be able to avoid the tricky business of reforming the tax system and they would certainly not succeed in mastering this if their aim were to reduce the general tax burden.

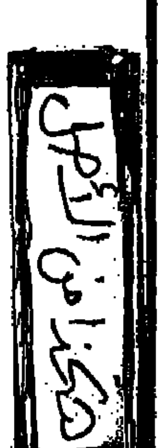
According to the CDU/CSU they will place responsibility on the trades unions, but the day when the unions cease making claims for large pay increases is still far off.

So, where is the present Opposition's great alternative plan to the government's efforts in the spheres of economic affairs and social welfare policymaking? So far we have seen very little of it.

"Law and Order" will be written large in a conservative government's programme. In this sphere there will be vast differences from the SPD/FDP government's programme in such matters as order at the universities and more general legal matters, such as the question of arrest in the case of persistent offenders. And the State is more likely to act as a guardian of virtue and morality under the CDU/CSU. They would do everything to present left-wing extremism and all its

Continued on page 4

Victory or disaster for the government
New elections?
Provisions made by Basic Law and the vote on the East Bloc treaties
Chancellor links result of debate on treaties and a vote of confidence in himself
Majority of Bundestag* votes no confidence in Chancellor
1st possibility
Majority of Bundestag* votes confidence in Chancellor
Chancellor stays in office
Warsaw and Moscow treaties come into force
2nd possibility
Majority of Bundestag* elects new Chancellor (Constructive vote of no-confidence)
Government falls treaties thrown out
3rd possibility
Chancellor suggests to President that he dissolve the Bundestag
President can dissolve Bundestag** within 21 days
Following dissolution new elections must take place within 60 days
*At least 249 of a total of 496 votes
**During this time election of new Chancellor by Bundestag majority is always possible.
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■ YOUTH AND FAMILY AFFAIRS

Critics dispute advisability of coming of age at 18

Handelsblatt
DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG
Industriekurier

Should children attain their majority at eighteen? Is it right to reform laws dealing with this point and reduce the age of majority by three whole years?

Both government and Opposition are of this opinion as they fight for the support of young electors. Their proposals to change the law should be put into effect during the course of the year. But coming of age at eighteen does not meet with approval from all quarters.

The criticism that is not voiced in the Bundestag comes instead from organisations representing parents and family. They all fear that a lower age of majority could sabotage order in the home.

Is the revolutionary change planned in the traditional family group compatible with Basic Law which places the family unit under the special protection of the State?

The voices of rejection from the ranks of the older generation are too loud to be ignored. Our partners within the European Community are taking no steps to give up the 20 or 21 age limit while, on the other hand, the German Democratic Republic has reduced the age of majority with the express aim of curbing the power of the family in favour of that of the State.

But what do young people themselves say? Do they see the earlier age of majority as a step forward as far as the development of their personality is concerned? Are they prepared to accept the additional obligations accompaning these rights?

Discussions with schoolchildren and young people at work show that their views differ. Up to now social progress for the young has meant on the whole that their years of freedom from the compulsions and stresses of the competitive society have been extended – in the past it had only been the children of the privileged classes who had been able to attend high school or university. Is this compatible with the step of freeing parents of their legal obligations towards their children three years earlier?

But it is not only the right to maintenance and education that is being impinged upon. Other privileges too would end earlier. It cannot really be expected that the law governing minors will continue to protect 18 to 21-year-old adolescents from the severity of the laws governing adults. This is a chance that members of this age range in other countries do not possess. The same is true for the liability for damages and the other consequences in civil law of legal majority.

Closer examination reveals that these restrictions on a minor's standing within the law are meant more as a protection for the young. The temptations of the consumer society are too dangerous and the financial obligations too well-known for the law not to protect the young against them.

But on the other hand the public today more than ever before needs adequate protection from the irresponsible transactions of the young with the far-reaching consequences these could have.

Politicians specialising in family affairs warn particularly about the right to marry which is automatically connected with the age of majority.

Even now the large number of young people getting married, often because of a pregnancy, is causing a continual rise in the divorce rate. A lot of unhappiness is still prevented by the ruling that the bridegroom must have passed his age of majority. This restriction can only be raised in special cases. But what would be the effect if any eighteen-year-old could go to a registry office without the permission of his parents and marry a girl of equally tender years?

Critics are unwilling to accept the argument that the right to vote and the obligation to do military service at the age of eighteen are tantamount to this age group coming of age.

Taking part in elections does not amount to direct responsibility of the individual, they argue, and being a soldier entails a disciplinary relationship corresponding to the recruits' minority.

Even those who do not accept this view should not overlook possible alternatives such as that by the Youth Protection Action Group which calls for a reduction of only one year in the age of majority with provisions for declaring a person a major in special cases.

A person's majority, his mental, intellectual and social maturity, is not connected with any particular age. There are people who never become mature enough to accept responsibility and there are others who could do this at a very early age.

But there must be a norm, an average age that should not be the subject of party interest but must cater solely to the well-being of the young.

Liselotte Weber

(Handelsblatt, 9 March 1972)

Unmarried mothers are not obliged to reveal the father's name

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Courts often reject applications by unmarried mothers to annul legal guardianship if they refuse to name the father of the child. State Secretary Alfons Bayerl of the Ministry of Justice states that a mother is not legally obliged to divulge the name of the father of her child, nor can she be forced to.

If courts rejected unmarried mothers' applications in these circumstances it was only to protect their children, Dr Bayerl adds. "The child not only has a right to learn who his father is but he is also entitled to demand that paternity is established. This is important for maintenance and later for inheritance," the State Secretary comments.

The Unmarried Mothers Association counters this official argument by pointing out that there is no authority that takes an interest in whether a divorced woman receives her maintenance. The Association described the need to divulge the father's name as a means of indirect guardianship.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, für Deutschland, 11 March 1972)

All political parties agree adoption law needs reforming

All political parties in the Bunde[stag] agree that current laws govern[ing] adoption need thorough reform. [It is] generally recognised that more chi[ldren] could be freed from unhappy lives [in a] home and that this should be done [at an] earlier age.

But complicated legal regulations [are] an obstacle. That is the only explan[ation] for why only some seven thou[sand] children are adopted every year [while] there are twice as many applications.

The Bundestag already dealt with [the] subject last autumn following a S[ocial] Democrat motion in June and a Chr[istian] Democrat motion in September. [The] debate, like the one on 2 February [this] year, showed that thorough reform [is] necessary.

But representatives of the SPD poi[nted] out that the legal affairs committee [had] so much work to do that it could not [give] due attention to a thorough reform.

All three Bundestag parties then ap[peal]ed to the Minister of Justice in the [hope] of pushing through at least a p[artial] reform in the adoption laws during [this] legislative session. Minister Gerhard [Jahn] agreed to submit a Bill by the [early] summer of 1972.

This partial reform will change [the] paragraphs of the Civil Law Code. [Bu]reaucracy will be simplified to cu[t the] time involved in adopting a child. [The] minimum age for a couple wishing [to] adopt a child will be reduced from [35 to] 25 and they will no longer be requi[red to] have no children of their own. Adopt[ions] will then be made in a shorter time [and at] a younger age.

But the Bundestag was unable to sol[ve] one important problem. Berlin dep[uty] Hellmut Sieglerschmidt is so far the [only] politician to draw attention to the [fact] that a large number of children re[main] unadopted as there is still too [little] willingness to help children who do[n't] live up to all expectations.

Perhaps parents wishing to adop[t a] child should bear in mind the happ[iness] involved not only in protecting [the] children from suffering but also in [bring]ing suffering children into happy c[hild]ren.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 9 March 1[972])

CDU/CSU differences

Continued from page 3

horrors for the upright citizen as the great bogy.

Of course no one can say exactly how the policies of a CDU/CSU government would appear. The party leaders themselves are far from certain. The fact that the two wings have united forces in their attempt to bring down the present government does not necessarily mean that they would remain united if they had to rule the country. There would be a tough battle over the statement of government policy right at the start. It is by no means certain that those politicians who are calling for caution in foreign policy and moderation in domestic policy will win the day. These moderates are offset by those who call for a tough line to get to grips with the country.

Some think of foreign policy like delicate china and will not go at it like a bull – others dream German nationalist dreams. The alternatives presented by the "union parties" are still followed by a string of question marks. *Rolf Zundel*

(Die Zeit, 17 March 1972)

Mother of autistic son campaigns for understanding of the condition

"Every day with my autistic son Dirk means a further step away from cruel tedium and mental gloom," Gerda Thieme, a woman in her mid-forties and the head of the Help for the Autistic Child Association, states.

"For ten years I have fought against this specific type of handicap together with my son who is now fourteen. We have not yet reached our goal. My example should encourage some five thousand couples in the Federal Republic – we have a chance, it has only to be taken."

In November 1961, when a specific type of handicap called autism was first being discussed in Germany, Gerda Thieme recognised the symptoms in her own child. Although the boy could see and hear, think and react to impulse, he was blind and deaf, isolated and introverted.

She established the Help the Autistic Child Association in Lüdenscheid in July 1970 after an appeal in three medical journals that met with a considerable response.

Gerda Thieme recently published a book entitled *Life with Our Autistic Child* in which she outlines the help that can be given by the family. Though she has no medical qualifications, she does have a wealth of experience behind her. Doctors, psychologists and educationalists pay great attention to this sober and therefore so fascinating book which is already sold out.

But what is autism, a term that is largely unknown here even today?

Professor Specht, a specialist in autism and head of the child psychiatry department of Göttingen University's Psychiatric Hospital, explains the symptoms.

"Our prime aim is not to cause alarm but to draw many mothers' attention to the most important features of this disease," he states.

"A child could be autistic when he cuts himself off from others and shows little interest in his environment and imitation during early infancy. Another striking feature is the considerable fear caused by even the slightest change to what he is accustomed.

"We also know linguistic symptoms in the form of words spoken over and over again that have no relevance to the child's situation. Play is often restricted to stereotyped patterns. Another noticeable feature is the excess attachment to a single object that cannot be compared with a child's normal relationship to his favourite toy."

"Help has been created for many handicapped children in West Germany in recent years," Gerda Thieme sa[ys]. "Mentally-handicapped children wer[e al]most forgotten ten years ago but [they] now receive appropriate treatment. [Help] for autistic children must also becom[e a] matter of course in the next few ye[ars]. But it could come too late for many [of] them. These children can be educated. My own experiences prove this."

Gerda Thieme has been invited [in] recent months to give lectures. Prof[essor] Kluge, head of the psychotherapy c[linic] at Süchteln in the Rhineland, welco[med] her to Cologne College of Education. [On] the Association's advisory board co[me] of specialists like Professor Ge[rhard] Bosch, the head of the Rhine Clinic [for] Child Psychiatry.

Gerda Thieme's propaganda campa[ign] continues. Many mothers turn to h[er] asking for information and the addre[sses] of specialists. Gerda Thieme does not s[ing] the praises of scientifically-based mira[cle] cures. What she wants to achieve [is] State-subsidised care for autistic childr[en].

Stefan Lehmacher

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 4 March 19[72])

■ NEW BOOKS

Youth and our changing world

Neue Aspekte der Jugendsoziologie (New Aspects of Youth Sociology) edited by Klaus R. Allerbeck and Leopold Rosenmayr. Published by Juventa Verlag, Munich. pp 272. 14 Marks.

A group at the seventh International Sociology Congress last autumn in Varna discussed the young as a factor in social change. The conclusions of this working group have been summarised in this new book in the form of individual articles that lead to a comprehensive worldwide analysis of the revolts of students and the younger generation that had their climax at the end of the sixties but whose effects can still be felt and will still be felt for some time to come.

Investigations by sociologists from seven countries led to the unanimous conclusion during the discussion of the revolts in the United States, France, Italy and the Federal Republic that the revolt of the younger generation in the sixties and the state of tension it caused and still causes should not only be seen as merely an intensification of the battle between the generations.

Instead, it was a structurally new and historically unique phenomenon which answered and challenged new developments in education, the world of administration, the international power balance and the social institutions that were no longer equal to the demands placed upon them.

Despite differing ideological standpoints, all the articles stated that it was impossible to speak in general terms of unrest among the younger generation. It must be recognised that most support for protest movements came and still comes from those young people with a good education.

A striking feature is the difference, perhaps even the conflict, within one and the same generation which can be illustrated by statistics. Surveys in the Federal Republic showed that 56 per cent of students described themselves as interested or very interested in politics while 66 per cent of the younger generation who were not students described themselves as only moderately interested.

Differing results were also found in the section of attitudes towards democracy. Seventy-six per cent of the students interviewed described themselves as being strongly to moderately democratic while 66 per cent of the non-students asked said that they did not think much of democracy. The main reason for this difference within the younger generation is differing education.

The editors state that those young people with a higher education must be looked upon as a power ground in society and that the possibilities of lasting conflict and a spontaneous partial reforming process must always be taken into account.

The only shortcoming of this international analysis is that there is no mention of the potential for political change offered by the younger generation in the Communist Bloc and in the Third World.

The editors explain this by pointing out that Communist countries have no problems with their younger generation and that though there are revolts of students and the younger generation in the Third World, especially Latin America, and though political activity is very strong among the young no objective evaluation can be made of their significance for social change.

The book does not only develop new theoretical pointers for the sociology of the young but also explains how a politically-committed section of the younger generation has led to far-reaching social and political change, especially in the Western industrial societies.

Hansjürgen Fuhs

(Das Parlament, 4 March 1972)

German emigrants in America

Die deutsche Emigration in den USA (German Emigration in the United States) by Joachim Radkau. Published by the Bertelsmann Universitätsverlag, Gütersloh. pp 378. 38 Marks.

Dividing the American "melting-pot of nations", a melting-pot that did not result in unity, into its individual components, analysing the contribution of the various ethnic groups to American life and depicting the way they behaved in certain historical circumstances is a task that can reveal a lot about American culture.

Joachim Radkau, an assistant lecturer on political science and the teaching of history at Bielefeld College of Education, has shortened his dissertation on this subject, partly rewritten it and has published it in book form.

He provides a wealth of facts, describes a number of German emigrants, shows their influence on American life, outlines their career in the United States and above all interprets their achievements that might not have been possible in the intimate environment of their homeland.

Among the works written by German emigrants are German history books. There is Erich Eyck's six-volume German history, Hedwig Wachenheim's comprehensive history of the labour movement in Germany and Hajo Holborn's two-volume work on modern German history.

"Emigrants doubtlessly fill a gap with their overall descriptions of larger historical fields," Radkau comments. The lack of reference libraries and files may have allowed their minds to wander and gain an overall view of the situation. It is this overall view that emigrants seem to like.

Hollywood provides an example for the political activities of German emigrants from 1938 onwards when it became a centre for interventionism. The two Mann brothers, Heinrich and Thomas, moved into the Hollywood area along with Bert Brecht, Franz Werfel, Lion Feuchtwanger and Carl Zuckmayer.

The first anti-Nazi film was made in Hollywood in 1939. It was called *Confessions of a Nazi Spy*. A number of German emigrants worked on the production.

Heiko Flottau

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 4 March 1972)

Who's who in politics

Who's Who in der Politik (Who's Who in Politics). A biographical list of 4,500 politicians in the Federal Republic of Germany compiled by Karl-Otto Saur. Published by Verlag Dokumentation Munich. pp 342. 48 Marks.

It was about time that *Who's Who*, a work of reference containing the most important section of the political, industrial and social world in the Western hemisphere, received its West German equivalent.

Saur's list provides biographical information down to the personal telephone number of all ministers and state secretaries of the central government and Federal states, the members of the Bundestag and provincial assemblies, the mayors and municipal directors of all towns with more than fifty thousand inhabitants and finally the chairman of the local district councils. The wealth of information in each entry is due not only to the compiler's enthusiasm but also to the cooperation of the persons involved and assistance given by the political parties.

This explains why some entries are long and others pithy. Looking up *Schmitt, Walter*, of Offenbach we learn only that he is the chairman of a local council and belongs to no political party. That takes up only two lines.

The 22 lines on *Barzel, Rainer Candidus* also mention his article *Mater et Magistra* published in 1962. *Ralf Dahrendorf* even manages 27 lines.

The publishers state in the foreword that the work is completely up-to-date thanks to the unusually short time it took to produce it.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 March 1972)

The State and its welfare obligations

Ein sozialer Rechtsstaat? (A Welfare State?) by Charlotte Rothweiler. Published by S. Fischer Verlag, Frankfurt. pp 132. 6 Marks.

Instead of an introduction the book begins with the verdict of the Second Chamber of the Federal Constitutional Court on 18 July 1967: "As Article Twenty Paragraph One of Basic Law states that the Federal Republic is a welfare state, it is logical that the State has the *duty* to ensure a balance of social differencres, thus providing a just social order."

Charlotte Rothweiler tries to show in her book that the State does not fulful this obligation. She analyses the tax system for instance and concludes that it is a two-class system. High earners profit from tax benefits to a far greater extent than workers. Transferring funds to escape taxation is also the privilege of a minority according to Charlotte Rothweiler. The inequality in the administration of justice can be seen, she claims, where economic and industrial crimes are concerned. She argues that it is the little man who is always caught while top men get off.

Where property is concerned, Charlotte Rothweiler feels that community priciples have been turned upside-down. Large property-owners put their own interests above those of the community, she states. She also complains about the inequalities where rents are concerned.

People can disagree with the premises on which the book is based. That is a question of interpretation. But the book must be granted one thing at least. It is the product of hard work in which material on relevant social problems has been collected with painstaking care.

Those problems are occupying public attention more and more but are overladen with controversy at present because of their social content.

The book ends with the question of whether those critics are right who claim that capitalism is incapable of finding an effective solution to social issues.

Charlotte Rothweiler does not answer this question and this happens intentionally. She only wanted to provide evidence so that people can decide for themselves. That is the strength of her book.

(Die Zeit, 3 March 1972)

Social groups and the mass media

Die soziale Gruppe im Prozess der Massenkommunikation (The Social Group in the Mass Communication Process) by Peter Müller. Published by Ferdinand Enke Verlag, Stuttgart. pp 261. 34 Marks.

People today are daily subjected to a scarcely recognisable wealth of influences and expectations that would soon make them helpless in the competition of wares and opinions if they did not develop certain attitudes of reserve and powers of resistance.

We speak almost as a matter of course of the flood of impulses invading our senses but we do not examine why people are able to remain active in the face of this saturation of information.

What enables a person to sift through the daily stream of events, information and impressions, selecting various factors according to which he plans, makes decisions and acts?

If the mass media were able to exert their influence without being disturbed and if every message reached its recipient, people would indeed have been turned into that unspecific target that many pessimists claim they are today.

Peter Müller counters the bias against the effects of the mass media in his excellent book on social groups in the mass communication process.

Müller starts from the fact that human action takes place within social groups whose aims, norms and emotional interrelationships exert a great influence on their members.

This influence also has an effect on the reception of the information put out by the mass media which is registered by the recipient in a changed form that correspond to the interests of his group.

Informal communication between group members does not only weaken the direct influence of the mass media but also protects the member via a selection process against nonconformist information that could endanger the solidarity of the group.

This protection against undesired information only remains fully effective if the social groups are extremely strongly consolidated internally and it is weakened as soon as signs of a disintegration of the group appear or the individual member emancipates himself from the influence of the group.

Müller concentrates intentionally on groups with a degree of integration and is able to show that even in the informal communication of group members in which questions of superiority and subordination have little importance, so-called opinion leaders have a greater chance of favourable communication opportunities.

It is these opinion leaders who help new information gain a hearing – information about a new drug is given to doctors or new agricultural equipment is introduced to farmers for intance – and they therefore fulfil the function of innovators.

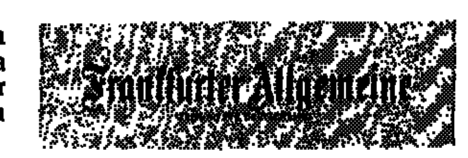
It is thanks to Müller that the theories about the effectivity of the mass media have been placed on a borader basis for examination and that new information has been provided about informal communication between group members, previously a neglected field.

Karol Szemkus

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 7 March 1972)

■ ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Currency union is vital to the stability of an enlarged EEC



Threads that were torn last May when the Western world was faced with a currency crisis and West Germany's answer was to float the Mark have now been tied together again.

This means that the work towards an economic and monetary union within the European Economic Community which was so rudely interrupted can be taken up again.

This is the conclusion that was reached by ministers from the EEC who are responsible for economic and currency policies in the Common Market after a committee meeting that went off remarkably smoothly, and after months of stagnation it means that Brussels has at last come up with some positive news again.

One particularly important point is that the four prospective EEC members were also consulted and the British Chancellor of the Exchequer Mr Anthony Barber raised no objections to the proposals of his future European colleagues.

The future economic and political potency of the EEC was shown clearly on this occasion for the first time and well before the formal extension of the EEC to ten countries.

Sceptics may ask whether this is not another of those nice resolutions that are passed from time to time that quickly sweep away economic and currency policy storms. Doubts of this kind cannot be dispelled all that readily.

But the decisions that have now been taken add to the decisions of the spring of last year that are still valid in principle (that in the course of the next ten years the EEC will be developed into an economic and monetary union, EMU, in three stages) decisive new elements from the point of view of organisations and in the sphere of monetary activities.

All those involved reached agreement during the discussions of the so-called Werner Plan that a concrete European economic and monetary policy could not be formulated by the Council of Ministers, but that small panels working in the strictest secrecy were required.

Up till now it has only been the governors of European banks of issue that have managed to achieve permanent secrecy. The new sub-committee for short-term economic and finance policy could in the course of time develop into a European economic Cabinet where conflicts arising could be taken and hammered out. One thing that must not be changed is the system whereby the Commission's offices make the preparatory arrangements for the sessions of this sub-committee.

In the political circumstances at present obtaining this is a rational compromise. All those concerned are of course clear in their minds that however well this sub-committee of high-ranking officials may work it is no guarantee of a better economic policy aiming at growth, stability and full-employment.

But the makeup of the committee should at least guarantee that apart from fine verbiage something else of value will be produced. It will take time before we can see how the sub-committee will bear up under stress.

The sceptics, who have legitimate reasons for feeling sceptical which we can all appreciate from our own experience, will remain sceptical. But the "Europeans" feel that it is time a new effort was made.

Even more important are the recommendations made to the banks of issue. In this respect the decisive factor goes much further than what was decided upon last year. When it comes to the battle over economic policies the "monetarists" are always in direct opposition to the "economists" in the enemy camp.

The monetarists feel that the EMU can only be a success if the banks of issue start taking decisive steps.

The economists on the other hand take the line that in the light of the contradictory economic policies that are being propounded today in the member countries this road must lead to inflation.

Now a compromise has been reached. The suggestions put forward by Karl Schiller which had been decided in advance by the experts are intended to have a dual effect. Firstly "Europe" should start to take on its own currency policy characteristics so as to give itself and the rest of the Western world a better footing at a time when there is widespread uncertainty all over the world about the stability of currencies.

If Britain goes along with this and perhaps other countries such as Switzerland or even Japan a new economic and currency policy field of influence would be created.

Secondly the newly suggested policy of narrowing the bandwidths should be treated with caution so that it does not permit any more economic policy bungling. The balance that is built up by the central banks' intervening must be sh[illegible] ed at the end of the month.

Use of the EEC auxiliary machi[illegible] already in existence should remain [illegible] before. But assistance should not [illegible] granted without consultation and c[illegible] trols. Thus no new blank cheques [illegible] been signed.

For good reasons no mention has [illegible] made of when this experiment [illegible] diminished bandwidths should begin [illegible] isters and heads of banks of issu[illegible] agreed that the new system mus[illegible] introduced gradually and that all [illegible] should be allowed to gain experien[illegible] no running before they can walk.

If the outcome of the experi[illegible] gained proves to be positive an at[illegible] will be made to shrink the bandwidth [illegible] currency exchange at present at 2.2[illegible] cent above and below parity.

The long-term aim is to get rid of [illegible] fluctuations altogether within the [illegible] Of course this can only happen if [illegible] national economies of the various [illegible] countries keep in step.

There is much still to be done. [illegible] must be carried out on the long cat[illegible] of measures in the fields of ta[illegible] capital market policies which mus[illegible] drawn up in the first stage of progr[illegible] towards the EMU.

Economic Affairs and Finance Mi[illegible] Professor Karl Schiller has given [illegible] minder of the duty to create a Euro[illegible] capital market by means of liberali[illegible] measures.

But until the new world cu[illegible] system has been created Paris will [illegible] to cash in on the currency exc[illegible] markets, and the French will not [illegible] liberalisation.

Furthermore all concerned are aw[illegible] the fact that the currency policy [illegible] tainty and the eradication of the Am[illegible] can balance of payments deficit will [illegible] a long time, maybe as long as two [illegible]

Hans Herbert G[illegible]

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Z[illegible] für Deutschland, 9 March)

Experts' economic optimism cannot be justified

It is a well known fact that moods, feelings, sentiments go towards making economics as well as concrete facts. These human characteristics decide whether an economy is to forge ahead or if it is to be braked.

But recognition of this basically simple fact does not explain entirely why moods and feelings have changed almost overnight in this instance. Up till a few weeks ago the scene was dominated by the dismal jimmies who could see nothing but recession before their eyes and were able to dominate people's attention by calling for a booster to be given by the government.

Suddenly, almost overnight, these wet blankets find themselves démodé. Now the scene is dominated by optimists wearing their rose tinted glasses. But in concrete terms very little has altered — unfortunately.

Prices are shooting up as much as ever and production is being restrained by a vice-like grip. There is no longer any question of a period of calm following an exceptionally hot economic boom and leading to a healthy, moderate upward trend with prices not being greatly affected. This is a hope that has been nipped in the bud. Before the economy has been able to sweat out the fever of creeping inflation there are all the signs that there is going to be another rise in temperature.

It is a good thing that Professor Karl Schiller, the Economic Affairs and Finance Minister has had the sense to ignore all the advice he has been given from various quarters, particularly from the professional economics experts, and has not accelerated these trends by stepping on the gas.

On the contrary the Professor is likely to be extremely careful with government spending when he comes up with the 1972 contingency budget which is going to have to spread a little money a long way.

On the one hand there is the Finance Minister fighting, albeit with little success for the stability of the Mark and on the other hand there are the spendthrift ministers such as Helmut Schmidt at the Defence Ministry and Georg Leber, who is responsible for Posts, Telecommunications and Transport. It seems almost inevitable that they will come into conflict with Professor Schiller at every turn.

The only reason they gave their approval to the "thrifty" 1972 budget, which on the surface has achieved a moderate increase only in government spending — 8.4 per cent — but will in fact amount to something much more like twelve per cent is that they feel sure that the thousands of millions of Marks that have been knocked off will be made up by the contingency budget. Thus the next schism in the Cabinet seems to be in the offing.

This year is by way of being a last chance for the government. With wage demands being kept at a more reasonable level it is essential to win back a degree of stability. If the attempt to do this should fail this year the prospects for next year are really grim. Since it is election year practically every Minister will want an infusion of extra cash to put on a good show. The value of money will decline even further and presumably working men will start getting restive once more since the increases they have received will have been eroded by inflation.

The increase in government spending, which is not entirely synonymous with the reform programme but which is obviously greatly affected by it is the one great latent danger for the stability of the Mark. The other major danger is the influx of speculative money from abroad.

But wage rises are not so extravagant at present — the average wage scale agreement now involves an increase of something like 6.5 per cent. This is still higher than the increase in productivity but it is not enough to make the individual feel that he is better off when all his taxes and social security contributions have been paid. Thus the demand for more pay is likely to begin again.

But things do not alter all that quickly. Reserves built up from the ten per cent tax surcharge which were so hotly in demand just a few weeks ago now look like being another source of worry. According to law these reserves must be paid back by the end of March 1973. And who knows what the situation will b[illegible] by then?

One idea is that the money cou[illegible] paid back this year just befor[illegible] holiday season gets into full swin[illegible] then at least part of this reserve [illegible] channelled abroad. An alternative [illegible] the government to offer an att[illegible] savings scheme perhaps with a [illegible] amount of the interest being free [illegible] income tax. Then it would be possi[illegible] stretch the contingency budget.

But inflation in West Germany is [illegible] partially home-made. The main pr[illegible] is hot money, particularly hot do[illegible] which has not been solved by revalu[illegible] of the Mark nor devaluation of the d[illegible]

Will the newly introduced cash de[illegible] legislation help matters? Or what [illegible] the remedy tried out by the govern[illegible] for the best part of last year — flo[illegible] the Mark? This medicine was so [illegible] that today no one is prepared to [illegible] it yet again.

Even the trade unions have join[illegible] this chorus of voices protesting [illegible] floating the Mark. They must be [illegible] ting how dearly every worker i[illegible] Federal Republic has to pay as prices [illegible] because far away in America Ri[illegible] Nixon is thinking about his image a[illegible] elections and — so far without succe[illegible] has pursued a policy of boosting [illegible] economy with massive deficits in [illegible] budget and low interest rates.

Whether the dollar is facing ruin or [illegible] trouble is caused by the "English dise[illegible] it is clear that it is essential to get [illegible] the inflation bug rather than submit [illegible] and allow the symptoms of econ[illegible] plague to become even worse.

Franz Thom[illegible]

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 7 March [illegible])





■ THE ECONOMY

Consumers can see a rosy future

Experts waited eagerly for the foreign trade figures for January. These were believed to be the first clue as to how much success the West German economy was going to have in its efforts to keep this country the second largest international trading nation in the world.

For January was the first time for many moons that our exporters and importers were able to do their trading on the basis of fairly stable international exchange rates.

When it came out the set of figures for January looked promising at first with a 1,070 million Mark export surplus, especially as in January 1971 there was only an 827 million Mark surplus.

But the reality of the situation is quite different. The bill for the realignment of currencies, worked out in Washington in December, has not yet been handed to the Federal Republic's foreign traders.

It takes some time before a new stream of trading tendencies cuts out the course along which it will flow, and there are said to be disturbing currents below the surface.

Obviously companies that have highly developed overseas offices will do their utmost to get these working in top gear since they have invested heavily to build them up and are not prepared to write them off without a struggle.

But this is a procedure that can only be applied when domestic trading produces higher profits.

Are these hopes realistic? Is it not true to say that after two revaluations right on top of each other the Federal Republic's industries are so pressurised by foreign companies that profits in certain sectors of the economy — for instance the motor industry — are the lowest since the war?

This bill for the realignment is something to be paid by the importers rather than the exporters. This is a tendency that is already being felt in two sectors of the economy which are particularly susceptible to international trends. First of all the motor trade, which gives one in seven workers in the Federal Republic employment and the radio and television equipment manufacturers.

Both branches are obviously expecting a cutback in production in 1972 and not only because of the cooling off of the domestic economy. Radio and television set manufacturers expect one of the chief reasons for falling production to be an increase in the number of imported sets. It was for this reason that their turnover dropped by nine per cent to 3,100 million Marks last year.

This industry had to cut back the number of people employed to a greater extent than any other branch of the economy, namely by eight per cent.

And as a consequence radio and TV manufacturers are complaining more loudly than anyone else about the consequences of Bonn's economic policy and the "complete liberalisation of imports".

This development, the association of radio and television industries attached to the Central Association of Electronics Industries (ZVEI) claims, pointing the accusing finger at the formulators of economic policy, will mean that factories in this country will be running at only a fraction of their production capacity and "in certain circumstances" this might mean that further workers will have to be made redundant.

Even the AEG-Telefunken group admits: "These cheapened imports are exerting a great pressure on the market, particularly in view of the fact that the prices of West German radio and TV products have been pushed up by increased production costs, making them less competitive."

For this country's electronics industry to fight back it is essential to market innovations and this implies intensification of research and development work. For the pressure exerted by increasing imports is clearly the writing on the wall.

The radio and television equipment manufacturers had to weather a drop in their export surplus of one hundred million Marks last year as a result of a cutback in exports and in increase in imports. The surplus was down to 250 million Marks.

With 2,300,000 cars exported last year this country's motor manufacturers were the undisputed leaders in the international motor trade. But their lead over the second in the table was cut from 800,000 to half a million. Previously the second largest exporting country for cars was France, but now significantly Japan has leapt into second place.

Last year 2,150,000 cars and vans were registered in the Federal Republic. Of these 25.2 per cent (22.5 per cent last year) were of foreign manufacture. Registration as a whole increased by 2.1 per cent (as opposed to 14.5 per cent in 1970), but the expansion was entirely accounted for by the foreign makes. Registration of imported cars went up by 14.5 per cent, while there was a decrease in registration of West German makes by 1.5 per cent.

This is a trend that will continue in 1972 since the prevailing conditions have worsened. In January there was an increase of 6.6 per cent in the number of cars and vans registered to a total of about 130,000 vehicles. But while the increase in German makes registered was only 2.1 per cent foreign competitors boosted their sales by 29.4 per cent.

Fiat alone put 9,483 new cars on the roads of West Germany in January (excluding production in this country) as opposed to only 6,794 in Januar 1971. Renault's 10,169 registrations in January 1971 increased to 11,437. Chrysler/Simca registrations increased from 4,727 to 5,970. Peugeot's figure of 3,375 was slightly up on last year's 3,118 and Citroen increased sales from 2,004 to 3,378.

These figures would undoubtedly have been even worse, according to the Motor Trade Association (VDA), if January had not brought an announcement from West German manufacturers that prices would be rising, leading to rush buying.

Stockpiled vehicles

Just how critical the situation is in the West German automobile industry is shown most clearly by the number of unsold vehicles stockpiled. According to the VDA the number at the end of 1971 was 255,000 (an increase of 6,300). In January another 30,000 unsold vehicles were added to these stocks! And this was in spite of the fact that production was cut back by 300,700 compared with the previous year!

The situation is said to be the same abroad with 100,000 West German cars waiting for purchasers, a figure that is not expected to decline, since 164,700 cars were exported in January, increasing the export quota from 52 to 55 per cent. There was a 4.5 per cent drop in absolute exports as compared with the same period of last year.

Even though developments may not have been so depressing in February the trend is still as bad as ever. Export trade is becoming more difficult and foreign competitors are establishing themselves more firmly on Federal Republic markets.

Burkhart Salchow

(Deutsche Zeitung, 3 March 1972)

Frankfurt fair applauded all round

DIE WELT

Most exhibitors at this year's Frankfurt Fair, which closed on 9 March, say that business was moderate to good. Branches particularly pleased with dealings were the West German and foreign exhibitors of glass, china and ceramics, items for the smoker, stationery and office equipment, cosmetics, chemicals (on the consumer side) and musical instruments.

Many West German companies stress that it was with considerable misgivings that they came to Frankfurt this year and that orders from this country and from abroad far exceeded their expectations.

There are divergent opinions among the exhibitors of arts and crafts, jewellery and silverware and trinkets. In these branches a number of exhibitors feel that business was disappointing.

West German firms producing glass, china, ceramics, musical instruments, stationery and office equipment as well as metalware for export claim that there was a considerable gingering up of overseas trade.

Most branches report that prices on the West German market have had to be raised and that this has kept sales lower than otherwise, but on the contrary that it is much easier to get away price increases on foreign markets without loss of sales, particularly in the case of valuable items.

There are between 66,000 and 68,000 visitors to the International Fair, mainly experts from various branches or from the equivalent departments of large stores and wholesale marketing companies. It is believed that there was a considerable increase in the proportion of visitors from abroad.

(Die Welt, 10 March 1972)

Electrical goods business brisk but not booming

Electrical goods manufacturers in West Germany only expect productivity and turnover to increase by a small margin this year. As a result of this decline in the rate of growth of the industry the differential between the various sub-sections will grow even larger, the Chairman of the Electrical-Goods Manufacturers Association Felix Herriger fears.

There will not be a noticeable increase in yield, it is feared, which is something that worries the industry in the light of declining capital investment in this branch. Nor is there likely to be an increase in export trade.

Despite these factors and the worrying developments that have particularly been noted in certain capital investment goods sectors of the electrical goods branch, Herr Herriger does not feel the time is ripe for the economic policymakers to "durchstarten", that is to say to give an immediate boost with reflationary measures.

Before this can be done with due safety it is essential for spiralling prices to be brought under control. Herr Herriger feels that the way to more stable prices has been paved, but it is essential that there should not be a rush along this path before the cement has dried, so to speak.

The declining tendency towards capital investment has largely been caused by a lack of confidence in government policies among company managers. Felix Herriger feels that it is important to begin restoring this confidence as an essential psychological requirement for a stabilisation of the economy.

The economic situation of the electrical goods industry in West Germany is marked by considerable differences in individual production spheres as well as on both home and foreign markets.

Moreover, he said, there was continued uncertainty when it came to investments and unabated pressure on yield. On the other hand there is a tendency for production costs per item to rise less sharply than was the case last year. And in most sectors of the electrical goods industry there has been a slight improvement in the number of orders coming in.

However, orders from abroad have stagnated. The greater security that is now being felt in international dealings has not yet made its mark on the order books of the electrical goods industry.

Last year there was an actual increase in production in this branch of 1.5 per cent. Nominally that increase in productivity dropped to just 5.7 per cent, as opposed to 17.6 per cent the year before.

The increase is the result of an above average increase in a few investment goods groups such as telegraphy (an increase of 29.6 per cent to 3.590 million Marks) and data processing. But consumer goods in the electronics sphere went through a year of stagnation.

Turnover in this branch increased mainly because of a run down of stocks in warehouses by 9.3 (18.4) per cent to about 57 milliard Marks. The increase in exports of 8.5 (16.1) per cent to 14,700 million Marks was below the increase rate for domestic sales.

Imports of electrical goods increased by 6.4 (34.5) per cent to 7,900 million Marks.

There was an increase in wages and salaries in this branch of 11.6 (22.5) per cent to 17,100 million Marks — the number of people employed in these industries dropped by one per cent to 1,085,000 — pushing up the wages bill to 33.6 (31.8) per cent of the total production value of 50,900 million Marks.

The average price increase in this sector of the economy was 3.9 (5.9) per cent which shows that is was only partially possible to pass on increased production costs.

Productivity in the industries has increased as well. The output per employee increased by a nominal seven per cent and when increased prices are taken into account this increase was still about three per cent.

The electrical goods industry will adjust its investments this year to the expected economic normalisation tendency. Last year investments were between 2,100 and 2,200 million Marks and made up about two thirds of rationalisation. But there will not be a great improvement in the situation with regard to self-financing because of the pressure on yield.

(Die Welt, 3 March 1972)

■ MERCHANT MARINE

Shipowners sell vessels abroad to gain economic advantages

Declining prices and a permanent depression are causing ship owners growing concern. The strike currently affecting a couple of dozen ships of the West German merchant marine and described by the owners as illegal is only making the general situation worse.

Special difficulties were involved in building up the West German merchant marine after World War Two and what is happening now can only be described as an unprecedented and still continuing sell-out whatever reasons individual ship-owners may give for the transactions they make.

A report on the current state of West Germany shipping compiled by the West German Shipowners Association (VDR) of Hamburg was recently submitted to Transport Minister Georg Leber in Bonn.

The report states that more than one eighth of the total tonnage of the West German merchant marine passed into foreign hands last year, either by direct sale or a change of flag. The reasons for this must be sought in the particular conditions prevailing in the Federal Republic, the report added.

The West German merchant marine had some 1,950 ships of more than three hundred gross registered tons at the end of last year. As they weighed a total of about eight and a half million GRT, at least one million tons worth of shipping must have been sold.

It must also be considered that not all shipowners in the Federal Republic are organised in the VDR. This is particularly true of the large number of coasters that are especially affected by the conditions leading to the "sell-out".

There are no indications of a decline in this trend or even a complete halt to it, whether it is a case of shipping being sold genuinely abroad or whether it is the now more usual practice of a ship changing flag when a West German shipowner sets up a subsidiary in Liberia, Cyprus, Panama or the Somali Republic.

Shipowning circles believe that the present trend will continue. VDR-head Hermann C. Helms, the Bremen shipowner, told an association meeting that shipowners would continue to transfer their ships abroad as has long been normal in other branches of the economy because of the advantages to be gained in being on the spot.

Exact information on the total extent of tonnage sales can only be found in the shipping register kept by the Federal state of Bremen where almost a third of the Federal Republic's merchant marine is based.

This register can be considered representative of all West German ports even though the number and GRT volume of the ships withdrawn from the register in Hamburg and other ports should be considerably higher, especially where the switching of flags is concerned.

Last year 69 ships of between 200 and 24,300 GRT and with a total tonnage of 219,441 GRT were struck from the Bremen and Bremerhaven registers as they had lost the right to fly the West German flag. That amounted to exactly 9.8 per cent of Bremen's total tonnage at the beginning of the year.

Forty-nine ships weighing 226,196 GRT were entered into the register, leading to a modest overall increase of 6,755 GRT or 0.3 per cent. The net rise for Bremen in 1970 had been 492,425 GRT or 28.3 per cent compared with the national average of 13.6 per cent.

The situation worsened in the first eight weeks of the new year. Twenty-three ships of 128,453 GRT, or 5.7 per cent of the total tonnage recorded on 1 January 1972, were struck from the register and there was only one new entry – a tanker weighing 1,599 GRT.

This warning sign can be attributed to the large increase in operating costs, the effects of the revaluation of the Mark with the corresponding drop in receipts and the lasting stagnation in the freight market.

The West German merchant marine, whose competitive yardsticks are set by its foreign rivals, needs better conditions for working under. As far as operating costs are concerned, West German shipping lies in second place close behind the United States merchant marine which has a reputation for being expensive to run.

One of the main reasons for this is the set of crew and training regulations that are strongly criticised by the shipowners as automating ships and making them more competitive is not rewarded by a reduction in the numbers of crew.

Among the other causes for the sell-out are the various methods used for obtaining capital in the post-war years when the construction boom was not linked with the demand for the carriage of freight and therefore led to a considerable surplus of tonnage.

Wolfgang Pfeifer

(Deutsche Zeitung, 3 March 1972)

The seaman's right to strike

The right to strike extends to West German ships in West Ger ports or on the high seas. In for territorial waters or in a foreign p the ship is subject to the laws of t country. Crew members are not a ed to strike in countries where st are banned.

West German maritime regulation not rule out a seaman's right to st either. Regulations 106 and 109 gi the captain supreme command board ship have no punitive sancti

But seamen breaking paragraph can be punished. This regulation out prison sentences for seamen do not obey orders meant to war any danger to people, the ship o cargo.

That means that strikes can take place in port. If a ship moored alongside there is normally danger to either ship or people. I cargo is threatened if power is cut a refrigerated ship. The cold-storage be kept in operation, even during th action.

Seamen are however allowed ignore deadlines that could lead increased harbour dues. But they not refuse work connected with safety of the ship.

A strike at sea is possible, but to a limited extent. Because of t special dangers at sea and unprote anchorages regulation 115 can be applied.

It also applies when for exa blacklegs have been ordered to cas and the ship drifts in the har endangering both persons and the itself.

(Die Zeit, 3 March 1972)

Shipowners defeated in legal battle by seamen's union

KielerNachrichten

The two sides involved in the 36-hour token strike of the West German merchant marine ending on 1 March 1972 gave varying accounts of its effect.

While the Shipowners Association stated in Hamburg that only five ships had been seriously affected by the strike, the Public Transport Workers Union (ÖTV) put the number of ships affected at seventeen freighters with a total tonnage of 210,000 GRT.

A strike committee representative stated that his trade union had gained important new information during the strike. The ÖTV had not been disappointed. "That was only a rehearsal," an official added.

The token strike was accompanied by a legal battle between the parties involved. The Shipowners Association and Coastal Operators Association failed in their demands for an injunction against strike measures because of the new contract that, they claim, came into force when it was approved by the employers, the White-Collar Workers Union (DAG) negotiating committee and the arbitrator.

The Hamburg Court of Labour rejected the demand as the arbitration had not come into effect because of the objections of the ÖTV and the DAG executive. The ÖTV therefore had the right to take strike action, the court ruled.

The ÖTV claims that this ruling has made the action of individual shipowners in dismissing strikers illegal.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 2 March 1972)

Seamen's unions split over pay deal and strike action

A wage dispute in Hamburg has degenerated into a clash between the trade unions involved – much to the joy of the employers on the other side of the bargaining table.

A storm of protest came from the Public Transport Workers Union (ÖTV) after the shipowners and, on behalf of the workers, the maritime section of the White-Collar Workers Union (DAG), had accepted the arbitration terms put forward by Professor Herbert Krüger of Hamburg University.

Heinrich Rake, the ÖTV man responsible for shipping, claimed that the DAG has proved itself to be a trade union that always gave its vote to the employers.

Following this attack, the DAG executive took the unprecedented step of disassociating itself from its wage-negotiating commission that had approved the compromise. New talks were arranged and they are still continuing.

Gerhard Becker, head of the DAG maritime section, described the first compromise as offering no grounds for satisfaction but approved it because of his concern for keeping people's working positions open.

The DAG executive's intervention came as a surprise as Becker always negotiated pay deals independently in the past and the executive never made use of its right to have the final say. The number of seamen in the DAG has almost doubled to the present figure of 11,500 since Becker took over.

The disputed compromise was indeed shabby. ÖTV and DAG had demanded across-the-board increases of ten per cent for the 34,000 seamen working on West German ships.

The two employers organisations, the West German Shipowners Association and the Coastal Operators Association, made no offer. The coastal operators even wanted a cut in rates.

The compromise was an average four-per-cent rise, a seaman's pension and a fifteen-per-cent rise for those crew members covered by the Hapag-Lloyd scheme.

Under this scheme, now in experimental operation on one of the ships of West Germany's largest shipping lines, crew members do both deck and machine work whereas these two spheres have always been strictly separated in the past. Shipowners are then able to reduce crews by up to ten men.

There have always been differences in past wage negotiations between the ÖTV and DAG because of the differing interests they represent. DAG represents the white-collar workers – in this case the

DIE ZEIT

captains and officers – while the ÖTV tends to represent lower crew members.

The ÖTV did not like the situation in which they could be outvoted in the discussion on whether or not to accept the compromise if the two shipowner associations, the arbitrator and DAG reached agreement with each other. And this was the situation when DAG accepted the terms.

Now that this clash is over between the two trade unions ÖTV and DAG are once again working jointly in demanding a higher offer from the employers. The shipowners claim that initial DAG proval means that the terms have accepted and refuse to offer any ÖTV threatens strike action if the not change their mind.

DAG has also acted. Its first mo to replace negotiator Gerhard B with colleague Rudolf Weingärtner even with Weingärtner in charg negotiations DAG still does not w strike. At the beginning of the disp refused to be drawn into strike actio ÖTV.

But the ÖTV is remaining obdur Deputy leader Heinrich Jacobi is ex ting a new offer from the shipown within the next few days. "Otherw he comments, "we shall take action".

But the shipowners do not believe the ÖTV is in any position to carry its threat even if a majority of its th thousand members – less than a q of all West German seamen – sup strike action.

The chances of a successful strik not very great if the DAG, with than eleven thousand captains and cers, does not cooperate.

But the shipowners have asked fo ruling from the Court of Labour th this has not been able to prevent calling a 36-hour token strike com Hamburg, Bremen and Rotterdam.

The last strike in the West Ger merchant marine was called by DAG 1956 but it collapsed after nine day crew members did not want to conti strike action.

Horst-Wolfgang Bremk

(Die Zeit, 3 March 1972)

■ TECHNOLOGY

New Frankfurt airport terminal opened

The new airport complex built at Frankfurt by 2,500 workers over the past seven years at a cost of one milliard Marks has been described by some people as one of the technological wonders of the world while others classify it soberly as a reception centre and the man in the street calls it plainly though fittingly the Jumbo Station.

Thirty-six airliners, including eighteen Jumbo jets, can take on passengers at the same time. While Frankfurt airport processed "only" ten million passengers last year, the new terminal is designed to cater for thirty million people or 100,000 a day.

That is why the new terminal is a town in its own right. Sixty regular airlines and over one hundred charter companies have offices at the new central terminal.

Airliner clearance at large airports in the United States often takes almost an hour but to reduce this period to twenty or, at most, thirty minutes Frankfurt is taking advantage of all the benefits of traditional technology and modern electronics.

There is for example a tannoy system with six thousand loudspeakers, television information equipment with two hundred monitors and a fully-automated baggage section controlled by a computer and costing one hundred million Marks.

The baggage section resembles a gigantic robot accepting suitcases at each of its 240 counters simultaneously and dispatching them to dozens of destinations at a speed of eight feet per second. It is this baggage section with its 25 miles of conveyor belt that makes Frankfurt a fast airport.

As confusing as the many installations at the central terminal are to the outsider, once he is a passenger he will find that he is able to find this way around this complex.

"We have seen to it that even an inexperienced air traveller will be able to find his way about the new terminal," the airport authorities comment. Even those people who cannot speak foreign languages or are illiterate will not feel that they are in a labyrinth. Easily recognisable symbols point out their way.

Experts stated in 1955 that some 2.3 million passengers would be catered for by Frankfurt airport in 1970. The actual figure was as high as 9.4 million. This rapid rise shows that the new terminal was not built merely to evoke superlatives but genuienely caters to the need of increased traffic. The thirty million passengers a year mark should be reached in 1980.

The terminal also includes an underground garage with six thousand parking spaces and a railway line connecting the airport with the city centre every thirty minutes. The line was built at a cost of one hundred million Marks and the train only needs nine minutes for its journey.



A bird's eye view of the new Frankfurt air terminal

(Photo: Luftaufnahme Flughafen Frankfurt/Main AG, frei unter Nr. 1343/70 durch Reg. Präs. Darmstadt)

When the summer timetable begins for the railways on 28 May trains between Frankfurt and Mainz will be diverted via the airport. It is also planned that express trains will one day stop at the terminal allowing passengers to switch from rail to air. The trains stop forty feet beneath the surface directly below the reception centre.

There are a number of shopping streets with dozens of shops, restaurants and services at the Jumbo station. As well as a supermarket, a drugstore, two post offices, a chemists, a number of travel agents, a car rental centre, hairdressers, baths, chemical cleaners and shoe repairers there are conference rooms, two press centres, a sex shop, children's nurseries with fifteen attendants and a chapel seating one hundred Catholics, Protestants, Moslems or Hindus.

Passengers and visitors can see what is going on from the terminal roof and observe the never-ending series of take-offs and landings – 250,000 a year.

West German hotel mogul Egon Steigenberger has five restaurants, six snack-bars and three kiosks at the terminal centre so that visitors and passengers will not need to starve.

The restaurants and cafés at which gourmets will be able to order anything from Frankfurt rib to New York cut steak and giant lobster have been given names such as "Icarus", "Leonardo da Vinci", "Graf Zeppelin", "Piccard", "Blériot", "Apollo 11" and "Sputnik".

In order to avoid any competition between East and West "Apollo 11" and "Sputnik" have been given the same space-travel-style interior decoration. "Apollo 11" serves international dishes while the "Sputnik" offers Bavarian and Swabian specialities.

The opening ceremony on 14 March ended with an airport party in the giant "Jumbo hangar". It was not a soirée for VIPs but a festival for ordinary people with plenty of beer and beat music.

The airline companies switched from the old terminal to the new on 15 March. A fleet of removal lorries ferried the furniture while two cranes lifted particularly large items through the fire-exits. All traffic was switched to the new terminal on 16 March.

Albert Bechtold

(Münchner Merkur, 4 March 1972)

Nuclear security project to be started in Karlsruhe

Radiation protection and nuclear environmental protection research are to be coordinated by the nuclear security project at Karlsruhe nuclear research centre.

The main aims of the new project are to examine and itemise the generation, transport and storage of fissile products in and around nuclear plant under normal operational conditions and in assumed emergencies.

In addition ways and means of precipitating, isolating and eliminating fissile material are also to be developed, according to officials of the Karlsruhe nuclear research centre.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 18 February 1972)

Automation frees workers from dangerous and tedious work

The metal industry would welcome the spread of "robots" to do the intricate operations involved in casting because of the time and money this would save. Workers too would be glad if mechanical installations of this type freed them from their dangerous, difficult and tedious work.

An apparatus has now been developed that uses hydrostatic power controlled electronically to operate working processes according to a programme fed into it.

This equipment can easily be converted to carry out various other functions. Seen in this light, hydrostatic techniques are able to free workers of much of their toil.

Hydrostatics and pneumatics convert energy by means of pressurised liquid or air. Hydrostatic power owes its success to its high energy density, its high degree of precision in controlling movements, easy operation and easy control of power and speed.

The latest developments in this field offer even higher pressure and energy with even smaller elements. The previous weak spots have been ironed out by using better caulking, surfacing and materials. Greater safety, longer life and a lesser need for servicing have been achieved.

Hydrostatic equipment for shredding machines operated at about 25 atmospheres ten years ago. The average today is eighty atmospheres. Pressures for construction machines have risen during the same period from between 120 and 160 atmospheres to a level of between 210 and 350.

Block building methods with interior channels instead of outside cables offer greater protection and safety as well as a higher degree of efficiency as power is no longer lost.

The motto "The nerves are electric and the muscles hydraulic" still applies to regulation techniques. Signals of no more than a milliwatt are enough to set off pressures amounting to hundreds of atmospheres.

In shipping hydrostatics with central control have taken over many of the functions once done mechanically or by hand such as loading or unloading. Dredgers operate more quickly and more quietly today. The number of crew members can also be reduced.

Pneumatics has also been improved. The passage of pressurised air has been made more efficient and weak spots eliminated. Equipment of this type is also more easily manipulable today. But working pressures produced by pneumatics are low, amounting to only four and a half to sixteen atmospheres.

Fluidics is a new development depending on the interaction of jets of gas under extremely low pressure. Equipment based on this technique can therefore be extremely light and usually operates without moving elements.

The components are extremely simple, consisting of synthetic moulds. They last for an unlimited period as they are subject to no wear and tear. They are insensitive to outside conditions such as changes of temperature or radiation and are therefore superior to electronic elements in space travel and have indeed proved their worth in this field.

Researchers are now looking for fields in which this regulation technique can be practically applied in order to pass out of the present stage where it is, with few exceptions, no more than a technical toy.

Pump construction is typified by higher performances, increased operational safety, less need for servicing, improved efficiency, a lessening of noise and greater chemical consistency caused partly by structural improvements and partly by the better materials or better combination of materials used. The same can be said of compressors.

Closely connected with pumps and compressors are the mountings used to control liquids, solids and gases which are used in everything from cigarette lighters and aerosol sprays to piston valves employed in dams.

With the spread of automation hand-operated mountings are being replaced by armatures that are run on power and need little servicing. On top of this come automatic controls such as pressure reducers and safety valves.

New stimuli are also coming from application techniques. Certain jet non-return valves constructed by Mannesmann-Meer can now be used to carry heavy water in nuclear reactor installations.

They can also be used for the rotational water systems in liquid filter installations for purifying waste gases and for the control systems of coastal caverns used for the storage of mineral oil.

There is a completely new development in the fully-mechanised, in some cases automated, filling installations used by the drinks industry. It is a silo for empty two hundred litre barrels and not one human muscle is needed to stack them.

As they arrive by conveyor-belt, the barrels are lifted in tens into a casement which grips them until the next group of ten is formed underneath. In this way the barrels gradually rise up the silo wall until there are twenty layers of ten barrels. The whole operation takes twenty minutes. The same amount of time is needed to empty the silo.

Hellmut Droscha

(Der Tagesspiegel, 4 March 1972)

■ THE PLAYERS' WORLD

Actors need to get organised to obtain better conditions

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Actor Max O. last learnt what an undeservedly good life he was having when Hubert Lemper spoke in the Bundestag on 9. September 1968 criticising the high wages that he and his colleagues received, especially from television companies.

Max O. learnt how good his life really is a few weeks ago when he was told that he would lose about eighty per cent of the rather low income he was receiving from the Beta Film Company of Munich.

Beta had for years been the largest dubbing company working for Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen, the second television service, and translated almost every American television series ranging from Westerns to *Lassie* into German.

Nine thousand broadcasting minutes a month have now been taken away from the firm and transferred to a Berlin company. It is not only the Bavarian Ministry of Labour that suspects that the move was due to the cheaper fees charged for dubbing in Berlin as well as the tax benefits involved. About two hundred Munich actors are affected by this economy measure along with Max O.

The Beta case, which was recently discussed by members of the film and television actors trade union in Munich, is only one example of the poor economic position that afflicts many West German actors.

Despite what Social Democrat Hubert Lemper supposed, a person can earn little money with his acting talents in West Germany unless he is a star. Curd Jürgens' golden cutlery is as little typical of the actors' social position as the rapid turnover of sports cars registered by young film producer Rainer Werner Fassbinder.

So far no inquiry has been conducted to examine actors' earnings. People knowing the theatre world would second Holger Hagen who told a White-Collar Workers Union congress that most West German actors would congratulate themselves if their income in a particularly good month reached the average weekly wage of a piece-rate worker.

There are some thirty thousand actors in West Germany and the large number of drama schools are constantly providing new blood. But only 3,599 actors had a firm contract in 1970. Good contracts can only be concluded if an important theatre is highly subsidised by the State or city council.

The freedom enjoyed by television actors means above all that they are not paid overtime. It is only in recent years that the view has come to be accepted that actors are employees, at least as far as social insurance schemes are concerned, and should be able to claim an employer's contribution to their pensions insurance.

A number of powerful film companies such as Bavaria of Munich were unwilling to accept this until they were ordered to pay a considerable amount of back contributions to insurance schemes. A number of broadcasting companies still refuse to pay an employer's contribution for their actors.

It is only those few actors who can afford to argue with film producers and broadcasting companies that are not completely powerless against the exploitation laid down by the small print in some obscure place in their contracts.

The average actor who refused to sign the condition demanded by TV 60 – a firm working for ZDF – obliging him to renounce his rights for "performances in such spheres for which the type of application is not yet known or discovered" would soon find himself out of the running.

If a play is repeated on television, decreasing the actor's chance of a new engagement, the actor will get a maximum of ten per cent of his original fee. One hundred per cent is paid in Britain when a play is repeated.

If a play is sold abroad the actor's share of the income is just about enough to buy a bottle of champagne to drink the producer's health.

Gernot Duda of Munich caused a stir two years ago when he refused to approve the sale of *Rotmord*, stating that sales of this type usually brought actors ridiculous sums of between 19.20 and 72.47 Marks.

If the legal situation is not changed producers of cassettes will earn millions while the actors will be fobbed off with a few hundred Marks.

West German actors have shown little talent for solidarity in the past. Actor organisations in Scandinavia and the United States have proved that they need not be powerless.

In Norway for instance it was stated at a congress in 1971 that the actors' organisations have complete control of the media. In the United States nobody who ist not a member of the trade union is allowed to say a word in a production. In 1969 the Film Workers Trade Union there negotiated a contract bringing its members a total of ten and a half million dollars for repeats.

Actor organisations in West Germany lead a more docile existence. The old Stage Actors Cooperative, whose leader Wolfgang Windgassen has ironically become an opera director and therefore an "employer", has done a lot for actors at the large theatres but it has done little for those at private houses.

The former German Film Union negotiated such an atrocious contract for film workers a few years ago that a leading judge at the Court of Labour believes that it can only be explained by the large quantities of alcohol that the delegates were given during the talks.

The Film and Television Creators Professional Cooperative set up three years ago to make the first protest against the small fees paid to actors employed by dubbing companies failed dismally.

This strike and its inglorious end has in the meantime become a kind of key experience for many actors. When it was seen how easy the producers were able to cope with the boycott as there were always enough actors prepared to seize their chance of getting on in their trade and when the strikers were shown that films could be synchronised by taxi-drivers if need be (with resultant loss of quality), many people realised at long last that trade union work cannot be done by laymen.

The success brought about by this realisation can now be seen. The fee for a dubbing take is still five Marks but a new sense of awareness is gradually beginning to form.

The Professional Cooperative and its amateur strike organisers like the young Christian Wolff who was on the dubbing companies' black list for more than a year have now taken refuge under the protecting umbrella of the White-Collar Workers Union.

It now numbers some 1,200 members including such prominent names as E.F. Fürbringer, Bruno Löbel, Joachim Fuchsberger and Gustav Knuth. Its three leaders Günther Pfitzmann, Helmut Lange and Holger Hagen are influential and one of its most recent members, Munich cabaret performer Jürgen Scheller, knows God and the world and, above all, important politicians.

The Film Union has now become affiliated to the Trade Union Federation within the large and strictly-organised Radio, Television and Film Workers Union (RFFU). It has already succeeded in organising a pensions fund for members of the free professions working in radio and television.

The organisers themselves know how difficult it will be to keep the new wave of trade union activity going. In a profession in which jealousy is an almost obligatory characteristic the individual anti-organisation men have to be given laborious exaplanation of the fact that nobody is asking them to sleep with their colleagues, to use Holger Hagen's expression.

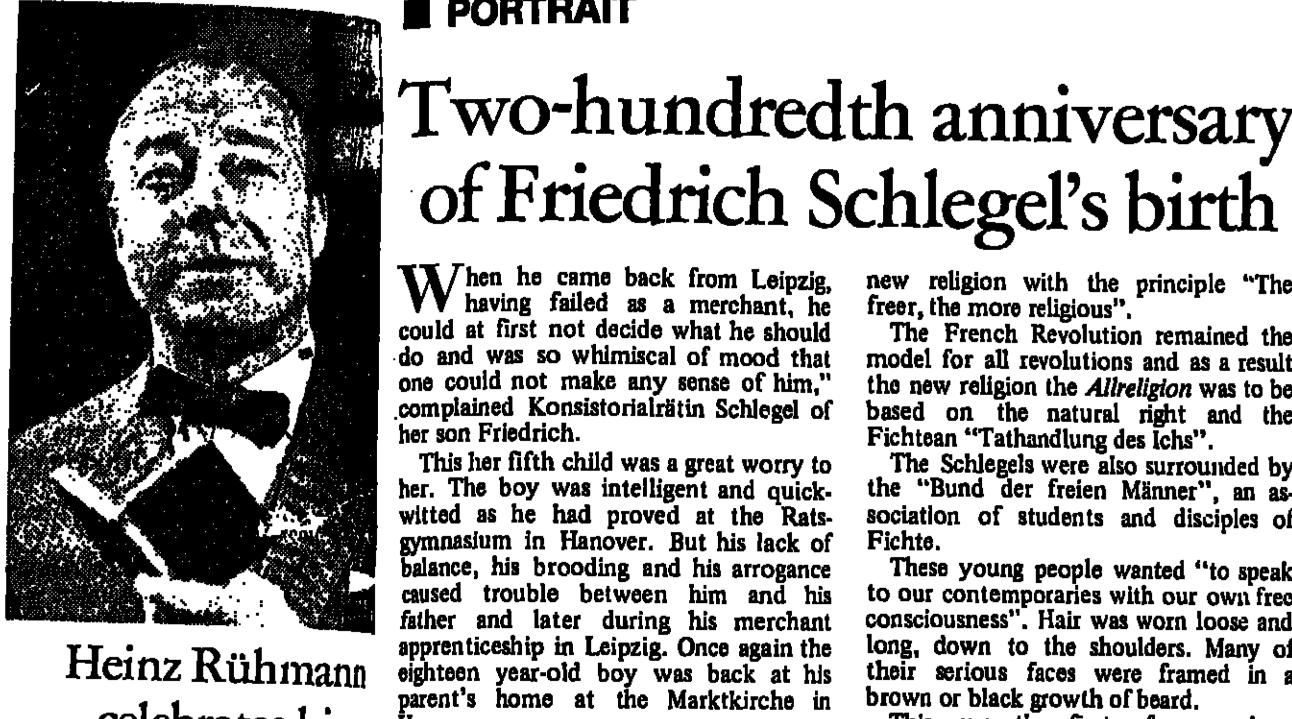
Dieter Kuhn, the RFFU head in Bavaria, forecasts that there will one day be a mass media labour organisation covering journalists, writers and actors.

Promises of a better future are of little consolation to actors such as Max O. whose problems are immediate. "I shall have to look for work as a temporary waiter," he states resignedly.

His colleague Gerd Günter Hoffmann, one of the top men in the dubbing trade, is a little better off. A dubbing company in Berlin has offered him a job on the same series he dubbed in Munich. But there is just one difference – he will receive seven hundred Marks a programme less.

Herbert Riehl-Heyse

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 March 1972)



Heinz Rühmann celebrates his 70th birthday

Bremer Nachrichten

Heinz Rühmann, one of the m[illegible] popular German actors, is sev[illegible] Because of his parts in a large numbe[illegible] comedies, Rühmann became know[illegible] the joker of the German cinema.

Rühmann was born in Essen as th[illegible] of a hotelier. He left high school and attended drama school in Mu[illegible] Rühmann made his stage debut in Bre[illegible] and then moved to Hanover, Munich a[illegible] finally, the Berlin Kammerspiele.

His first film success was *In Die Drei von der Tankstelle*. Between 1939 [illegible] 1945 he headed the Heinz Rühm[illegible] Productions section of Terra Films. F[illegible] such as *Sophienlund* an *Der Engel [illegible] dem Saitenspiel* were produced du[illegible] this period. For a time Rühmann bel[illegible]ed to the Berlin city council appointed [illegible] the Russians in 1945.

His film company Comedia Film p[illegible]ed him into financial difficulties after [illegible] currency reform of 1948. He then made many guest appearances at the[illegible] at home and abroad, travelling as f[illegible] Austria, Italy and South America.

His second film career began [illegible] *Charleys Tante* and *Der Hauptmann [illegible] Köpenick* which won him the Fe[illegible] Film Prize in 1957.

Among the other films in w[illegible] Rühmann starred in the post-war era [illegible] *Ein Mann geht durch die Wand*, [illegible] *Pauker*, *Dr. Med. Hiob Prätorius* and [illegible] *Ente klingelt um halb acht*. (Photo: [illegible])

(Bremer Nachrichten, 6 March 1[illegible])

Bonn aids Oberhausen short film festival

The eighteenth West German short [illegible] festival in Oberhausen will take p[illegible] between 24 and 29 April this year. [illegible] again the festival will be proceeded by [illegible] exhibition with films from the Fed[illegible] Republic including West Berlin on sh[illegible]. This will be held between 26 and [illegible] March and audiences will choose the fi[illegible] that will be involved in the Oberhau[illegible] Festival.

The Bonn Ministry of the Interior w[illegible] grant 25,000 Marks for the Oberhaus[illegible] shorts festival. Film critics will don[illegible] 500 Marks towards the discuss[illegible] event. At public performances short fi[illegible] with a running time of up to si[illegible] minutes and in line with the regulation[illegible] of the West German Film Shorts Festiv[illegible] will be projected.

(Die Welt, 15 February 197[illegible])

■ PORTRAIT

Two-hundredth anniversary of Friedrich Schlegel's birth

When he came back from Leipzig, having failed as a merchant, he could at first not decide what he should do and was so whimsical of mood that one could not make any sense of him," complained Konsistorialrätin Schlegel of her son Friedrich.

This her fifth child was a great worry to her. The boy was intelligent and quick-witted as he had proved at the Ratsgymnasium in Hanover. But his lack of balance, his brooding and his arrogance caused trouble between him and his father and later during his merchant apprenticeship in Leipzig. Once again the eighteen year-old boy was back at his parent's home at the Marktkirche in Hanover.

What was to become of him? His father demanded that he should go to Göttingen and study law. Friedrich's eldest brother August Wilhelm was already studying there. He obeyed, but did not concentrate on Roman law. He was keener on the Greek philosophers and poets, the writings of Lessing and Winckelmann, the works of Goethe and Schiller. He wanted to become an art and literary critic.

He also read political writings from France. It was 1790. The Jacobins were about to seize power in the National Assembly in Paris. Friedrich revelled in Republicanism. Politics was even closer to his heart than heavenly criticism and even more heavenly poetry.

In 1971 he went to Leipzig to study. In those days Leipzig was the big wide world. Subject to moods, discontent, he felt he was torn apart like Hamlet. At the same time he was proud to be "his own God".

He ran up debts, had an unhappy love affair and thought of suicide. His friends scorned him and called him "Queer fellow! A fool with the mind of a genius!"

After two years a woman gave him the courage to renounce his law studies. She was Caroline Böhmer, the daughter of Michaelis, the Oriental expert and had been widowed young.

At this time she was his brother Wilhelm's girlfriend. Later she married Wilhelm, then divorced him and married the philosopher Schelling. Friedrich met her in Altenburg, near Leipzig. She had gone to ground there to give birth to her illegitimate child by a French officer. It was not only this that interested Friedrich about her, but also the fact that she had been in prison on suspicion of holding Republican sympathies.

Friedrich admired this clever, generous yet maternal woman. Three years later Caroline became his sister-in-law when she married Wilhelm in Jena. In Jena the two brothers published the magazine *Athenaeum* between 1798 and 1800. At this time a new period of German literature was just starting – the Romantic period.

Friedrich Schlegel was caught up in a current of new views and ideas. He discovered many links between literature and politics, society and writing.

In his *Fragmenten* he wrote: "Romantic poetry and revolution belong together." The new poetry and philosophy of Fichte was thought to guarantee the progress of humanity. It consisted of "permanent revolution". The men and women on the "ghost island" Jena in Caroline Schlegel's salon wanted "to realise the revolutionary wish of the Kingdom of God" and make this a reality.

It was Friedrich's intention to start a new religion with the principle "The freer, the more religious".

The French Revolution remained the model for all revolutions and as a result the new religion the *Allreligion* was to be based on the natural right and the Fichtean "Tathandlung des Ichs".

The Schlegels were also surrounded by the "Bund der freien Männer", an association of students and disciples of Fichte.

These young people wanted "to speak to our contemporaries with our own free consciousness". Hair was worn loose and long, down to the shoulders. Many of their serious faces were framed in a brown or black growth of beard.

This was the first of many later political associations of angry young men ranging from "Junges Deutschland" through groups of social revolutionaries right down to Daniel Cohn-Bendit.

On a stay in Berlin Mme Veit, the daughter of the philosopher Moses Mendelssohn became Schlegel's girlfriend. She was a year younger than he. In 1798 she left her husband, banker Simon Veit, and went to Jena with Friedrich.

Love of this woman came for Friedrich at the time when he was going through a crisis. He escaped from the crisis by writing his autobiographical novel *Lucinde*. The book shocked many readers because of its "revelations".

Attacks were published against "divorced Madame Veit, of the Jewish race, now a semi-married woman Mistress Schlegel". The Electoral Curatorium of Hanover University forbade "Friedrich Schlegel, who is ill-famed because of his corruptive immoral writings" to sojourn in Göttingen.

This marked the final break between Friedrich and his parental home. But he



Dorothea Schlegel
(Photo: Staatsbibliothek Berlin)

stayed by the extraordinary woman, by dint of whom he had "grasped the meaning of marriage and life and the glory of things".

"I found her not beautiful. Her eyes are too large and piercing, but her mouth and chin are too strong. The voice is the softest and most feminine thing about her," Caroline wrote of her. She quickly made an enemy of Dorothea. The two had such extravagant personalities that the only way they could exist was apart.

In the first year of the new century the Jena Literary Community broke up. Friedrich's drama *Alarcos*, performed in Weimar, was a failure.

The couple lived in Berlin, in Dresden and from 1802 in Paris, making a meagre living from Friedrich's literary lectures. In Paris his audience was four strong!

He met an English naval officer with a Bengali wife and from them learnt Sanskrit and continued with his studies branching out to Oriental and Provencal manuscripts.

Among his audience of four were the Boisserée brothers from Cologne. He joined up with these two fanatical lovers of old German paintings who had managed to save many of them from destruction or neglect and from them gained an extraordinarily strong impression of mediaeval times.

The paintings these brothers rescued are today the heart of the famous Alte Pinakothek collection in Munich.

In his feeling for the Middle Ages Schlegel was strengthened by his wife's neurotic attachment to Catholicism. Schlegel travelled through Belgium to the Rhineland and stayed three times in France between 1802 and 1808 and in the cathedrals he visited he discovered art works and manuscripts that showed the deep religous feelings of the Middle Ages.

He himself was captured by his unswerving political feelings, his sense of the State and his sense of class. Now he believed that he could give political and religious impulses to his time by reviving the forces of the "Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation".

As a student Friedrich Schlegel was plagued by suicidal tendencies. Later as the leader of the Romantic movement he spoke of the "permanent revolution". In his eyes the French Revolution had been just a part of the world revolution.

He said that young people who were not revolutionary were sick. A parallel statement was made much later by Sir Winston Churchill, who claimed that old people who were not conservative were stupid.

Was Schlegel "stupid" when he developed from being an admirer of revolutions and revolutionaries to a champion of the conservative, or as we would say today reactionary, Austrian State?

Chancellor Metternich was convinced that a State could only be preserved if its citizens were protected from the chaos inside themselves. "Evil exists and this evil is powerful," he said.

This was his opinion and it was in accordance with this opinion that he acted. He equated peace and security with the preservation of "organically" originating State institutions – he equated chaos with annihilation.

For this reason he came out in opposition to "liberalism" and "democracy". He regarded the Austrian State which was built up on and supported by the army, the Church and the class system as being a "haven of peace".

Schlegel's idea of a State in no way tallied with the realities which he come across in Vienna. It was far closer to his ideal of a *Gottesstaat*.

Had he not believed, back on the "spectral island" of Jena back in 1798, that he could create "the Kingdom of God"? Since he became Catholic the God whom he saw as being a human was the authority. There was no evading this authority. God was the master over all nations. In the State inhabited by many different races and ruled by the Habsburgs he believed he saw an earthly microcosm of the Kingdom of God.

Like the father of the Church, St Augustine, he viewed the history of mankind as a struggle between two States that were constantly at war.

Firstly there was the peaceful State that "saw God as first and foremost but Nature as a second force" and the "anti-State" inhabited by the worldly people "with the customary tools of destruction and the lust for conquest, greed and materialism, which were all bound to lead the State away from its original peaceful beginnings."

"Anti-State" was the terror of the Jacobin. In his political pamphlet of 1822 he called it "the signature of the age." State and anti-State, the despotism of Napoleon. Schlegel viewed it as the "nimrod which had reproduced itself



Friedrich Schlegel
(Photo: IP/Archiv für Kunst und Geschichte)

throughout the ages of man from the very earliest times, coming down to our day as a kind of political original sin".

"Anti-State" was to be heard in all his orations now, "having been borrowed from the French fashion magazines or the British constitutional system."

He was attacking the aims of the liberal students, the "blacks" or the "unconditionals" as they were calling themselves in those days.

Their political programme involved creating a federation of German states forming a nation-State with a constitution. As Schlegel saw it the danger of an anti-State existed wherever there was building of castles in the air and struggles and battles for indeterminate ends.

What Friedrich Schlegel called a "Staat" or State, was a country "where there are no slaves and where marriage is regarded as a sacrament and treated as something holy."

Furthermore a State was to be a country where there was recourse to law and a system of law that was in accordance with "the basic laws involved in the Christian ethic".

He was convinced that an anti-State involved being anti-marriage, anti-Church, anti-guild and anti-school. And he felt that the most menacing assistants of these four evils existed in the "intellectual associations", school, science, speeches and literature.

With convictions such as these could Friedrich Schlegel feel at ease? Can a human being really deny his own youth so radically? Obviously it is possible for a man to do so and the more likely if his spiritual passion, and at the same time his character, are torn asunder.

In Vienna Friedrich Schlegel, the son of a Protestant vicar found the need to make out that he was more Catholic than he really was if he wanted to get himself a good position and win influence.

He was successful in getting both the position and the influence.

Schlegel was given employment by the "Court and State Chancellery". In 1809 he was the editor of the army newspaper while Archduke Karl was marching against Napoleon.

Seeking sensation, nobles and court society attended his speeches. These always took place in the presence of a police official.

Although Schlegel enjoyed Metternich's trust whenever he visited a wine house, visits that became more and more frequent, he was always shadowed by agents.

In his latter years he spoke of "the philosophy of life, history, language and speech". He died on 12 January 1829 in Dresden.

After his death his wife Dorothea became more and more intolerant of everything political or religious issuing from the universities and the press that was suspiciously "liberal".

Willi A. Koch

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 10 March 1972)

■ EDUCATION

Higher education courses on television gradually increase their coverage

Educational planners in Britain had the future in mind last year when they began a venture that experts there describe as the greatest experiment in the history of higher education.

At the same time the number of places available for freshers at the 47 universities in Britain rose by fifty per cent at one stroke.

This scheme is different from everything that has been tried before. It is a university devoted exclusively to extra-mural studies, unlike American universities where normal teaching and outside courses take place side by side.

The university is independent and has its own professors and degrees. It is not a cooperative venture of existing universities like the Extra-Mural Studies Association that the central government and Federal states plan to set up in cooperation with universities and broadcasting stations.

While students in Britain can look on the future with confidence, prospects in this country are more than vague. Everybody participating in the West German scheme wants his say about aims and methods.

The legal, administrative and financial basis is a matter of discussion as are the powers to be granted to various bodies. Bitter arguments are taking place between the universities, the Federal states and the central government which is only welcomed in its role as financier.

The broadcasting companies seem to be thinking along the most practical lines. Werner Hess, the director-general of Hessischer Rundfunk, gave his views on extra-mural studies a year ago. The ARD, the first television channel, would transmit school broadcasts while ZDF would screen university television.

It is only the stations that are able at present to put forward practical proposals. ZDF produced a complete test series last year in cooperation with the Tübingen Institute for Extra-Mural Studies, though it did not achieve any breakthrough because of political dissensions.

Bayerischer Rundfunk was the pacemaker for extra-mural studies on the air. Its tele-college has proved a complete success since its inception in 1967. A total of 14,455 people registered at the beginning of the courses and 2,878 of them passed the necessary examinations at the end of 1969.

Every graduate will have followed 460 television broadcasts during the course of his studies, done 144 written studies at home, taken 27 written examinations and spent 59 days at college.

The work of the tele-college is divided into the television broadcast itself, independent work based on the accompanying literature and the work done later in groups.

One of the best graduates was the 39-year-old former head of the notorious Panther gang who had enough time to swot in his prison cell. Since the tele-college has spread to Rhineland-Palatinate, Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate give their inmates the chance of taking part in the scheme. Some 150 prisoners have decided to seize this opportunity, thus contributing towards their own rehabilitation into society.

The economics, politics, law, history, sociology, education, mathematics and linguistics courses screened by the Hessischer Rundfunk, Südfunk, Saarländischer Rundfunk and Südwestfunk have more far-reaching aims.

The people participating in the scheme come from all sections of the community and are interested in getting to know more about a subject, increasing the number of subjects they are allowed to teach or gaining qualifications necessary to enter a university.

The results of the first joint college of the air organised by these four broadcasting companies are encouraging. Though only ten thousand of the sixteen thousand original participants had the necessary staying power to do their work and though three thousand of these dropped out after the homework they did only sixty of them were not equal to the demands placed upon them. A total of 1,346 gained the highest possible grading and 3,703 were given the second highest grading.

Otherwise, the extra-mural studies programme is rather patchy. Westdeutscher Rundfunk for instance runs what it calls a preliminary mathematics semester in which school-leavers are taught "mathematical logic" and "equivalence relations". Viewers looking in on the Third Programme's introduction to computer programming learn all about the mysteries of the punch-card.

At least from the end of 1972 or the beginning of 1973 the teachers will be better trained. ARD plans 39 broadcasts aimed specifically at instructors.

The North German stations (Norddeutscher Rundfunk, Radio Bremen and Sender Freies Berlin) are experimenting with special courses. A series currently being shown in the Third Programme in cooperation with the Engineering Association's education section illustrates grid planning techniques.

This course will end in April with an examination organised by the Association. Initial aid was given by the Süd[...]funk and Westdeutscher Rundfunk. A maximum of five thousand participants had been expected but 7,100 names were put forward. The accompanying book became a bestseller, retailing over th[...] thousand copies.

The costs for these courses are in keeping with normal evening classes. Taking part in the accompanying semi[nar] to the grid planning course costs [...] Marks, the text book costs 28 Marks and the examination fee twenty Marks.

Producing educational broadcasts is expensive however. Current costs [...] between 600,000 and 800,000 Marks, Hessischer Rundfunk claims. But [...] television companies do not want to [...] licence fees. They are hoping for subsidies from Bonn.

Horst-Wolfgang Bremke

(Die Zeit, 3 March 1972)

Financial support for student accommodation

Government plans to increase university hostel building this year should help to overcome the shortage of accommodation in university towns.

In guidelines issued by the Ministry of Education and Science married students will be able to share a room at a hostel.

Apart from backing hostel building the government plans to support the construction of student accommodation in other sectors. The Ministry stated [...] this would include buying flats that [...] then be rented to married students [...] group of students.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 7 March 1972)

West German students are the section of the population most liable to commit suicide with a rate twice as high as other people of their age who do not study.

Psychiatrists belonging to the student advisory service at the Ruhr University, Bochum, state that their most frequent problems are isolation, lack of contact, sexual disorders and doubts as to their academic abilities. One student in two needs advice because of mental disorders. Fifteen per cent need treatment.

Opposition to the existing social system, financial dependence and the growing isolation of the individual in the large universities are provoking situations of stress in students far more frequently.

"The vague social status creates feelings of guilt of which society and the parental home often take advantage," comments Dr Eugen Mahler, the former head of the psychiatric advisory service at Frankfurt University.

Investigations at Bochum show that

Students suffer from acute accommodation shortage

more and more students prefer to be poor though independent than to receive generous financial support from their parents. More than 85 per cent wanted a flat or room of their own where they would be beyond the influence of their family.

But rooms at cheap student hostels are in short supply. A students union survey in North Rhine-Westphalia in March 1971 showed that hostel places only existed for 10.8 per cent of the student population.

Eleven per cent of the student population in Hesse can be accommodated in cheap hostels, 11.4 per cent in the Saar, 11.8 per cent in Rhineland-Palatinate, 12.5 per cent in Baden-Württemberg and 13.2 per cent in Berlin.

The situation is a little better in Bavaria and Hamburg with a figure of 14.2 per cent each, Lower Saxony with 15 per cent and Schleswig-Holstein with 17.1 per cent.

The national average is 12.7 per cent. But the Düsseldorf hostel plan endorsed by the government states that at least thirty per cent of the student population should be accommodated in hostels at their place of study.

With the expected increase in the number of students (650,000 by 1975) 196,000 places would have to be ready by 1975, 225,000 by 1980 and almost 300,000 by 1985 if this figure were to be kept to.

The shortage of accommodation is proving to be more and more of a social restriction on university entry. The poor housing situation in Giessen led to 420 students declining the offer of a place at the university there for the winter term.

The accommodation shortage is made worse by the drop in the number of private landladies. Growing affluence and the lack of suitable rooms in mode[rn] homes have caused a drop in supply.

The average monthly rent for Munich students in 1963 was 63.50 Marks. [The] figure rose to 140 Marks by 1971-1972. Munich, Hamburg, Stuttgart and [...] are considered by students to be the most expensive towns for living quarters. [...] less affluent students have little chance on the free housing market in face [of] competition from better-off rivals.

Forty-four per cent of university students in Munich had a room of their [own] in 1963 but this figure had dropped [to] only 18.6 per cent by 1971-1972. [...] who fail to find accommodation in [...] town have to move out into surround[ing] districts and face a journey of ten [...] or more into university.

Foreign students are hit particularly badly by the accommodation shortage. The Mainz University newspaper [...] reports that one landlord in two [is] unwilling to accept "foreigners" [or] "coloureds".

Students, living on a grant totalling [al]most 420 Marks a month, occasionally find themselves at starvation level in [view] of the high rents they have to pay.

The minimum financial requirement for a student were reckoned at 374 Marks a month five years ago. Costs have risen so much since that a monthly average [of] six hundred Marks would be more re[alis]tic.

Almost seventy per cent of all parents contribute up to more than four fifths [of] the study costs of their children. About [a] third of all students live with their parents or relations.

At present 160,000 of the 475,000 students are given a monthly grant [of] between 160 and 420 Marks by the government. In the next two years the government and the Federal states plan to increase the amount set aside for grants from the present figure of one thousand million Marks to over 1,400 million. This will also include the financial aid given to over 200,000 schoolchildren.

Günter Olthof

(Nordwest Zeitung, 8 March 1972)

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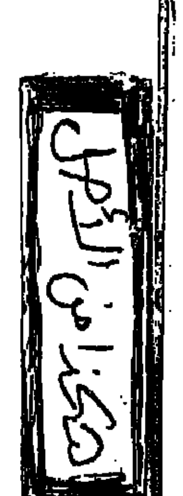
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■ MEDICINE

Hanover congress discusses problems of endocrinology

The eighteenth symposium of the Endocrinological Association held in Hanover from 1 to 4 March dealt with functional diagnostics or the methods that can be used to determine the quantities of hormones and their key positions in the organism. As these processes are largely beyond general comprehension, the importance of these hormone systems must be illustrated by a number of examples.

Endocrinology is the study of the functioning of the glands of internal secretion otherwise known as ductless or endocrine, glands — those organs that secrete hormones into the blood.

One important task of the hormones is to control and regulate the human metabolism. Any discrepancy from the normal or physiological hormone production automatically leads to pathological symptoms and can cause a total collapse of the finely balanced metoblism.

As the hormones also play an important role in the body's defence mechanisms, a lack of production, low production and even excess production nearly always cause serious disorders in the organism.

Knowing the processes involved is of decisive importance in cancer research, the problems of sterility and the examination of liver functions, Professor H.L. Krüskemper told the congress during his opening speech.

Professor Sune Bergström of the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, dealt with one of these interesting substances in his talk on the prostate gland and its hormone effects.

At the beginning of the thirties Ulf von Euler, the Swedish scholar who received the Nobel Prize eighteen months ago, was able to show the peculiar biological activity of male sperm that Professor Bergström found to be the effect of the prostate gland in 1962.

But what does the prostate gland do? It is known today that it produces about sixteen different substances that often have diametrically opposed effects. Chemically speaking, these substances are non-saturated cyclic fatty acids that also occur in other organs such as the brain, the thymus gland, the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and uterus.

The effects of these substances on the other hormone systems in the body vary considerably. The can either counteract these hormones or strengthen their effect.

Their biological activity also varies and the full role they play has still to be explained. Depending on chemical structure, they can increase or decrease the heartbeat.

Another characteristic of these substances that must not be underrated is their effect on the bronchial system. They reduce resistance in the bronchia and are therefore suitable for use in treating bronchial asthma.

As these substances also cause the muscles surrounding the uterus to contract they can accelerate labour pains. A pregnancy that needs to be terminated on medical grounds can be done so by prescribing quantities of these prostaglandines.

The substances also play a part in the transport of hormones into the interior of body cells. E.W. Sutherland, the American physiologist, received the Nobel Prize for his wonderful discovery.

Sutherland was able to show that the hormones themselves do not penetrate the membrane of a body cell but that this is done by the adenyl cyclasis, an enzyme localised in the cell membrane.

The information carried by the hormone is communicated into the interior of the cell by a substance acting as a second messenger under the influence of the adenyl caclasis enzyme. This is the cyclic adenosin monophosphate, CAMP for short, that is stimulated in its turn by the prostaglandines.

Another hormone system that has only been more closely investigated in recent years was the subject of a lecture by Professor Walter Siegenthaler of Zurich. This was the RAA system, the interaction of three hormones — renin, aldosteron and angiostensin.

One of the best-known diseases is primary hyper-aldosteronism which is also called the Conn syndrome after its discoverer. A kidney tumour stimulates production of aldosteron, leading to increased blood pressure.

Renin and the closely-related angiotensin are substances that raise blood pressure. Angiotensin is also known to have a beneficial effect on the heart muscle. The prime importance of this RAA system is its regulating effect on the water and sodium in the body.

Only brief mention can be made of the complicated relationships here. What is



remarkable is Siegenthaler's claim that women on the pill with a high oestrogen content tend to have more highly active renin, resulting in increased blood pressure. But, Professor Siegenthaler stated, we still do not know the actual causes of this hypertension.

But the symposium in Hanover has answered at least as many questions of modern endocrinology and has drawn attention to a number of hormone processes that still have to be examined to any extent.

Many years will probably pass before the problems touched upon by this conference are as comprehensible to laymen as for instance the effects of antibiotics on bacteria are today.

Alfred Püllmann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 4 March 1972)

Skin diseases are increasing, Frankfurt dermatologist claims

Nordwest Zeitung

There has been a clear increase in skin disease in West Germany, Professor Theodor Nasemann of Frankfurt University Dermatological Hospital told the Dermatology Congress that was recently held in the city.

Between twenty and twenty-five per cent of all patients visiting their doctor are suffering from a skin disease, he claimed.

An estimated three to four per cent of the populations have eczema. Professor Nasemann has information showing that the skin allergies caused by working conditions are on the increase.

Between one and two per cent of the population suffer from psoriasis or herpes. Acne is particularly common among the young. About twenty per cent of fourteen to twenty-year-olds are affected.

Excessive sun-worshipping has also led to an increase in the number of skin tumours in recent years, Professor Nasemann reported. The spread of naturism is also the main cause for the rise in the incidence of mycosis.

To counteract the spread of skin disease and improve treatment for these complaints, Professor Nasemann demanded that dermatology should pay more attention to preventive medicine. The capacity of dermatological clinics must also be increased and improved, he stated.

About two hundred doctors attended this year's Frankfurt Dermatology Congress theat dealt mainly with the major and side-effects of pharmaceutics on the skin.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 3 March 1972)

Recent statistics compiled in Frankfurt show that people should have regular medical examinations, however healthy they may feel.

The Medical Care Centre has now published the results of examinations on the first thousand patients to visit the new Preventive Medicine Centre in Frankfurt. Six hundred men and four hundred women underwent a series of examinations consisting of fifty separate tests.

The overwhelming majority of these people believed they were healthy but wanted confirmation that everything was o.k. and were of the type who would immediately look up a doctor in the event of discovering that they were suffering from the early stages of more serious complaints.

Eight hundred of these guinea pigs — the Medical Care Centre does not speak of them as patients as it does not provide treatment — were in the thirty to sixty age range.

The results of these examinations reveal how necessary it is to undergo a general medical examination every one or two years in an age when the plagues common in earlier centuries have given way to chronic complaints.

A large proportion of those examined could be discharged with the comforting information that no serious damage had been found — which is also an important result of a preventive examination of this type.

But examinations on very many of the guinea pigs revealed symptoms that suggested that careful examinations by the

Snap check reveals the fit are not as fit as they think they are

Handelsblatt
DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG
Industriekurier

family doctor or a specialist and subsequent treatment was advisable.

The most triking result was that 270 of those examined, both with and without spectacles, had a degree of vision that was under 75 per cent of the normal. That should give car drivers food for thought.

The other warning signs that were not noticed by most of the patients also seem typical. Mild or semi-serious diabetes was suspected in seventy of the people examined, demanding immediate diagnosis. It would probably not have been discovered by the normal urine strip test.

Signs of liver damage were found in 91 cases. Special notice must be paid to signs like this in an age of fatty foods and high alcohol consumption.

There were indications of bacterial infections of the urinary passages in 181 of the patients, both males and females. These could be cured by immediate treatment in most of the cases but they could lead to more serious complaints of allowed to continue unchecked.

As expected, the number of cases of heart and circulatory damage was high, though complaints of this type were normally in their initial stages. Heart irregularities were recognised in 73 of the cases and there were as many people with a rise of cholesterol in the blood, one of the first signs of the danger of a heart attack.

The number of cases of lung damage was also considerable. Indications of tuberculosis were found three times but more than seventy of the patients had lung anomalies and they were advised to consult a specialist.

Seven of the people examined were suspected of having gout, a disease that had almost disappeared a number of years ago but has once again come into prominence recently.

Seventy-five per cent of the women had their breasts X-rayed which is a more accurate method than that used in the usual preventive examinations. Forty of the cases were suspected of suffering from the early stages of a cancer of the breast. A more thorough examination will now corroborate or refute this. Microscopic examination of vaginal smears led to one woman being suspected of suffering from the early stages of abdominal cancer.

A surprisingly large number of the six hundred males underwent the sometimes rather painful examination of the lower parts of the intestine and 37 of them were found to have intestinal tumours that could become malignant if not treated satisfactorily.

Forty-two men with an enlarged prostate gland were advised to consult a urologist as the danger of cancer could not be ruled out in their cases.

Preventive medicine centres are to be found in Frankfurt and Munich and further units are to be set up this spring and summer in Essen, Hamburg and Stuttgart.

Their extremely modern and, as far as possible, fully automated equipment is meant to free doctors of time-consuming examinations that can just as well be carried out by medical orderlies.

The doctor is then given extensive and well-ordered information which helps him decide what other specialised examinations are necessary before giving his final diagnosis and prescribing a course of treatment.

As sickness insurance schemes so far refuse to pay for these preventive examinations lasting three hours and costing a little more than three hundred Marks, it is the patients themselves who have to foot the bill.

But the centres will probably be prepared to come to a special arrangement with firms demanding that their staff should be examined.

Helmut Holscher

(Handelsblatt, 2 March 1972)

■ OUR WORLD

Hesse introduces unique parole method for prisoners

Prisoners in Hesse will, from 1 April, be allowed out of prison during the course of their sentence, the first Federal state to introduce such a scheme.

Persons sentenced to a term in prison will not necessarily in future have to serve the complete sentenced behind bars.

According to a statement made by the Hesse Minister of Justice, Karl Hemfler, prisoners will be allowed to work or to take training courses for a job. Prisoners taking part in this scheme will only have to return to prison in the evening and spend their leisure time behind bars.

In this manner the Hesse Justice Minister hopes to be able to pursue a middle way between total incarceration and parole. In this arrangement a prisoner will be able to take a job in an independent firm without daily supervision. The salary will be paid to the prison administration where it will be saved for the prisoner. From this sum deductions will be made for family payments and for reparations the prisoner has to pay for the crime he has committed.

The scheme has two aims, according to Karl Hemfler: firstly it will prepare prisoners gradually for life outside prison. It has been noticed that prisoners who take a job after release work for only a few weeks and then give up their job, leaving them a prey to further temptations to crime. In this scheme it is hoped that prisoners will gradually get used to a regular job.

Further, the Minister explained, prisoners will be able to work and so pay off any costs that have arisen as a result of their criminal activities. Normally in prison a prisoner is unable to do this by means of his own labours.

In this situation the State recognises that it has a responsibility to the victims of a criminal. So frequently a prisoner is so burdened with responsibilities when he leaves prison that he becomes resigned to his situation in society and step by step returns to a life of crime.

By these arrangements it is hoped that difficulties that could arise for the criminal and his victim will be avoided. This is particularly important since "detention establishments so frequently are no more than breeding houses for crime."

Prisoners are only allowed out on parole in this way when they have served two thirds of their sentence, and that must be at least a year, in prison, and the remainder of the sentence to be served does not exceed one year.

Out of the 3,000 prisoners in Hesse prisons approximately forty prisoners fall into the category of those to whom the new arrangement is applicable.

If this new arrangement proves to be successful in Hesse Karl Hemfler stated that an approach would be made to the central government to have legislation introduced so that this scheme could be applied nation-wide. *Bernd Jasper*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 4 March 1972)

Parole from prison schemes – succesful

Experiments allowing prisoners to leave prison for a spell outside on their promise that they will return have proved successful. Most of the prisoners returned voluntarily and punctually after their visit outside the prison walls. According to a spokesman for the Hamburg justice authorities the experiment conducted over the past two years has been totally successful.

Only eight per cent of the prisoners allowed out on this scheme tried to make a getaway – and usually in vain. Statistics show that within a couple of weeks of absconding the prisoners who had broken their word were back again behind bars.

Increasingly the colossal risks involved in trying to make a getaway in this manner are becoming apparent to the prisoners themselves. In Bavaria the number who failed to returned dropped from 12 to three in the course of last year, and in the Saar all prisoners let out for Christmas returned on time.

There has also been a considerable decline in the number of prisoners who return late to prison.

The duration, requirements and general regulations concerning leave from prison vary from Federal state to Federal state. But the general tendency is that the leave is looked upon as an act of clemency although the prisoner will still have to serve his full term.

It is generally understood that the holidays away from prison are only offered for public holidays, such as Christmas. According to a spokesman for the Baden-Württemberg Justice Ministry, the prisoner gets a false impression of what life is like outside prison conditions when let out in this way which will not be of help to the prisoner when he has served his sentence and has to take up the threads of living outside prison again.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 February 1972)

Police protection

One in every three people in this country are prepared to pay more taxes for improved police protection, according to a survey carried out be the Wickert Institute, Tübingen.

Of those questioned in the survey 34 per cent of the men and 39 per cent of the females gave a definite yes to this proposal.

(Die Welt, 19 February 1972)

Champion keg roller

Gerhard Koller, 20, a watchmaker from Ort Hutthurm, near Passau, is the new champion beer keg roller.

He rolled a beer keg full with 50 litres of beer over hills and vales from Passau for a distance of ten miles. The levels at which he had to roll the barrel differed as much as 170 metres.

Gerhard Koller took seven hours to execute his feat.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 25 February 1972)

NARCOTICS

Anti-drug campaign

The Ministry of Health plans to begin its long-intended anti-drugs campaign after the end of the summer holidays in the Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Two million Marks have already been set aside for this campaign that Health Minister Käte Strobel hopes will check drug-taking among the young. The Frankfurt branch of an American advertising concern is responsible for the campaign.

The main group the campaign hopes to reach is the twelve to fourteen-age range. Almost three million children come into this category, it is estimated.

A survey has shown that this age range still opposes drugs. The campaign is intended to confirm them in their attitude. The number of young people taking drugs is currently stagnating, the Health Ministry states.

The Health Ministry is deliberately embarking on a new course with this campaign after learning that the young take no notice of the information on drugs given by the authorities.

Advertisements warning against drug-taking will appear in children's magazines, school newspapers, family periodicals and comic strip books from the middle of August onwards.

The Ministry and agency have also Booked advertising time on Radio Luxemburg during which pop musicians will state why they gave up drug-taking.

Parents and teachers will also be made more aware of the problems by normal advertising methods and through special information and teaching material.

Hans Lerchbacher

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 16 February 1972)

Too used to drugs

The hashish habit has become too much a part of life in West Germany, according to Dr C. Heinemann of the Westphalian Institute for Juvenile Psychology, Hamm.

Dr Heinemann, writing in the medical journal *Medizinische Klinik*, spoke of the clinical consequences of drug-taking. The trend had been accentuated by reports that drug-taking was harmless.

In connection with this trend Dr Heinemann quoted the report on hashish by R.W. Leonhardt that claims that hashish is only of relative harm when other human indulgences are taken into consideration.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 25 February 1972)

Drug dangers

Dr Hans-Joachim Bochnik, director of the Frankfurt University Psychiatric Clinic, came out decisively against a relaxation of the drug laws in this country on a Saar radio programme.

Dr Bochnick, who for the past year has been chaiman of the Health Ministry special commission on drugs, said: "I consider it madness to talk of relaxing the drug laws."

Dr Bochnik was referring in his romarks to a recent American study on drug-taking which recommended that the habit should be legalised since it had been proved that hashish did not increase criminal tendencies nor did it drive the taker to harder drugs.

In reply to this view Dr Bochnik said: "It is incorrect to maintain that hashish does not drive a taker to harder drugs. It certainly does in the Federal Republic."

According to recent statistics in this country between 20 and 30 per cent of all school children have had some experience with drugs. Almost all of these graduate to harder drugs and about five per cent become addicts and that, Dr Gochnik said, "is far too many."

"There is no way of knowing how a young person is endangered," Dr Bochnik commented, "when he or she just tries drugs."

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 25 February 1972)

CRIME REPORT

Police impersonato

Posing as a police officer a 35-yea man broke into private homes bungalows to commit robbery. wanted him for many thefts.

The man woke up a young couple sleeping in their bedroom and them that he had found a door fro terrace open and that he had bee guard at the house for two and hours.

The young couple were relieved the police had taken such good them and offered him ten Marks The man, however, declined to this and suggested that the couple donate it to the Red Cross.

Only when the man had left did couple realise how improbable the was, but by then the 'police officer' disappeared.

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 6 March

Slewed thief

A thief in Munich who had bro into a bakery was discovered cause of his loud snoring.

The baker arrived at his bakery in the morning and found that the door at the entrance had been shatt

Inside the bakery he could hear snoring and he discovered behind counter a man sleeping deeply with empty bottle of champagne in his and several full bottles and a couple empties near him.

He immediately alerted the police woke the man up and arrested *him*.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 23 February

Teeth marks

An important clue for the Brann burg police was a piece of Emme cheese found at the scene of the cri Via the cheese the police were abl arrest a much sought housebreak 30-year-old caretaker in Brannenburg

Whilst breaking into a local pub caretaker was suddenly overtaken hunger. From the fridge he took out piece of cheese and took a bite. Witho thought he tossed the remains of cheese away when he had finished eat

Police found the cheese with the te marks in it and asked a local dentis make a caste of the teeth marks. Fr this it appeared that the thief ha dental peculiarity and hafter enquiries local dentists the police were given a as to the identity of of the housebreak

The caretaker was arrested and co fessed to police a further ten robberies.

(Münchner Merkur, 3 March 19

New name for cop

Willi Weyer, Interior Minister North Rhine-Westphalia, deplo nicknames for the police such as Bu (cops). He has asked listeners to Ra Luxemburg to suggest names for t police that would improve the for public image, describing them as p tectors and friends of good citizens.

The Minister outlined the qualities thought most acceptable in a good pol officer. The Minister said he should be quick-witted as Konrad Adenauer, as w as an owl, have a bearing like Cu Jürgens, the charm of the young Mauri Chevalier, the gentleness of a dove a the intelligence of an Albert Einstein.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 March 19

■ SPORT

Girl gymnasts don't have an easy time of it



"Sport is murder," a fifteen-year-old girl wrote in her diary some time ago. The pretty teenager was sick to the back teeth of training some months later. Gymnast Herta Löwenberg of Teningen ended her career after the 1970 world championships, two years before the Munich Olympics.

She no longer wanted to accept the torture and she didn't give two hoots for the dubious title of "Germany's prettiest gymnast". Herta Löwenberg, doe's eyes and all, no longer wanted to live like a latter-day nun and saw no point in dividing her life between floor events and the horizontal bar.

Herta Löwenberg was a star among this country's girl gymnasts. Her lightning career led to hopes that she would make the international grade. That was why her early retirement was regretted.

But the gap caused by her departure from the West German team had been filled by the time a few months has elapsed and 1970 had given way to 1971, the year before the Olympics.

Jutta Oltersdorf of Teningen, Uta Schorn of Leverkusen and Ingrid Santer of Munich, all younger than Herta Löwenberg, began the rejuvenation process a long time ago. Angelika Kern of Teningen, a participant at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico, is at nineteen the grandmother of the West German gymnastics team.

Eduard Friedrich, the chief training of West Germany's male gymnasts, turns green with envy when he sees the large number of talented girl gymnasts.

"There is a great difference numberwise between the male and female gymnasts," he states. "The broader base of top-class girl gymnasts is reflected in their quality." In making these compliments, Friedrich is being more of a realist than a gentleman.

Losing Herta Löwenberg, the victim not of brutal training methods at the Frankfurt training centre but of her own way of thinking, was not all that important. Jutta Oltersdorf and Uta Schorn took seventh and eighth places at the European championships last autumn.

This was the success of two carefree girls who do not allow intensive training methods to get on top of them and it was also a success for the guidance and care of those people responsible for them.

The morale among the girl gymnasts has not always been so good. The arguments between officials and trainers were always detrimental to active gymnasts.

When disagreements and differences of opinion between trainer Hans Timmermann and supervisor Irma Walther reached their peak last year Timmermann had to go.

He was followed by fellow-trainer Jana Kubickova who wanted to show her solidarity with him. An arrangement with the former top-class Czech gymnast failed as both sides insisted on their point of view. Even Josef Neckermann, the man giving financial aid to sport, failed to smooth over these difficulties.

Erich Biendl and Horst Gohr are now in charge of the Frankfurt training centre for the Olympic candidates. Two other people working hard on the preparations for the Olympic squad are choreographer Ursula Jungbluth and Marie-Louise Krutmeyer, who will act as team captain to the girl gymnasts in Munich (an archaic rule of the international gymnasts association states that girl gymnasts at Olympic Games, international and European championships can only be headed by a woman).

"If all the girls keep fit until Munich we shall be able to put forward a strong team for the Olympics," trainer Biendl states. An improvement on the eighth place at the Mexico Olympics and the World Championships two years later in Ljubljana seems possible. "We can reach sixth place," the ever-cautious Horst Gohr comments.

Jutta Oltersdorf, Uta Schorn, Ingrid Santer und Angelika Kern are practically certain of their places in the Olympic squad. Marlies Stegemann, Marlies Lehmann and Ingrid Wendel with their international experience have the same prospects of filling the two remaining places as the less experienced Angela Drutschmann, Ulrike Weyh and Andrea Niederheide.

It is not only the demand for a place in the Olympic team that is great. There is as big a run on the gymnastic training school in Frankfurt. "We are unable to accept all the girls who apply," Horst Gohr states.

"This trend shows that it is not only in our training centre where good work is done," trainer Irma Walther comments. "There are plenty of good trainers at work elsewhere in the country."

Among the trainers working elsewhere are Anna Stein, Irmi Krauser and Brigitte Dömski, all of whom are in their twenties and all of whom were competing in international events not long ago. If the trainers are young the gymnasts are still younger! Uta Schorn was a member of the West German squad at the age of twelve and at fourteen was the youngest competitor at the European championships last October. Her eighth place was an international sensation. Blonde Uta Schorn has been a gymnast since she was four and a half. She has now left her parental home in Leverkusen in order to be able to train in Frankfurt where she now attends the local high school. Will she go the same way as Herta Löwenberg?



Jutta Oltersdorf exercising on the bars

(Photo: Horstmüller)

Trainer Gohr says emphatically that she won't. But who can guarantee that she or another of the girl gymnasts will not one day write in their diary, "Sport is murder"?

Arthur Schorn, Uta's father, is concerned about the future of the whole national squad and often invites them to pick a chicken with him when he visits his daughter in Frankfurt.

"If Uta were to become unhappy, I'd fetch her home right away," he states. "I'm not going to let her accuse me one day of letting her spoil her youth for the sake of sport."

But Uta Schorn is still dreaming of a career as a gymnast and she plans to have a job connected with sport. Uta's world is still in order. And that is also the world of all the Juttas, Marlies and Angelikas who want to compete in Munich.

Gerhard Vögtler

(Welt am Sonntag, 5 March 1972)

Rudi Altig is well on the way to being the saviour of cycling in this country

Former world champion Rudi Altig has been trainer of West Germany's cyclists since 1 January 1972. The Cycling Association (BDR) and the Neckermann Sporting Aid Scheme agreed on this choice after almost twelve months of wranglings both public and backstage.

Altig himself was sceptical about the post he shares with Karl Ziegler who is responsible for theory. "If they want someone who can guarantee Olympic medals after only six months, they've got the wrong man," he stated.

Altig embodies the modern gladiator type. Many of his fellow-countrymen looked upon him and still look upon him as West Germany's best cyclist who deserves respect and admiration.

He soon rose head and shoulders over the rest of West Germany's professional cyclists. He also had a good reputation abroad. *L'Equipe*, France's largest sports periodical, once described him as the last knight of the road.

One logical consequence of such veneration was that many people forgot all those failures that could have destroyed Altig's image as a super-sportsman. Altig was forgiven for failing in the Tour de France every time he got up into the mountains as long as he had won a couple of stages beforehand and worn the *tricot jaune*.

Altig had long become a symbol of German strength when he won the most valuable medal cycling has to offer – that of World Professional Champion – after an unparallelled burst of energy on the Nürburgring on 28 August 1966. This title was the crowning glory of a glorious career.

He was aware of this veneration and did everything to prove himself worthy of it. Rudi Altig was condemned to success. This is the burden that trainer Rudi Altig has inherited from cyclist Rudi Altig and it is a burden that has to be overcome by deeds and not words.

The conditions are not very promising. On the one hand there is the relative lack of success enjoyed by West Germany's top cyclists in international events. There were few surprises of a pleasant nature last year apart from Dieter Koslar of Cologne finishing fifth in the last world championships in Mendrisio. Altig could build up his riders to international class gradually, if his name were not Rudi Altig.

On the other hand, he has to work with these cyclists who have not been blessed with success in the past. He has to try and bring them out of their mediocrity.

"I don't see why our amateur cyclists should be worse than those in Italy, Belgium, France or anywhere else," Altig commented optimistically and this was why he accepted Neckermann's offer of the post of trainer.

Altig had been asked in 1970 and then too had accepted. But the BDR and its then president, the late Erwin Hauck, rejected him.

Hauck's successor, Hans-Joachim Hangstein, head of the Münsterland Halle in Münster and an Altig admirer, did not let the contacts with Altig lapse. As soon as the press called for someone to save West German cycling Altig was asked once again to take on the post of trainer. The decision was greeted with euphoria. Cyclists, officials and journalists declared that the BDR had made a wise choice.

Few sceptical voices were raised amongst the general jubilation. Altig's name was too much connected with success for anyone to ask what qualifications he had as trainer. Everyone knew him as a rider but what would he be like as a trainer?

Even though Dieter Koslar spoke out for Altig on behalf of the West German team after the world championships and outlined the position of most of his colleagues, there seems to be more of a psychological than a sporting problem here – won't a person who was himself successful be able to breed success?

Only one person has dared express his doubts up to now and that is Karl Link, the former Olympic gold medallist and world champion in the pursuit event who is now responsible for the juniors.

"As far as power and enthusiasm are concerned, Altig must be the right man to build up the cyclist's morale before the Olympic Games. But I doubt whether he will have any long-term success," Link stated.

Altig needs an experienced man at his side, Link claims. But Link does not want to be this man. "Altig would get all the credit for success and if everything ended in failure I would get the blame," he comments.

Only one thing is certain for the time being. The BDR can only count on Altig's charisma for the next few months and nothing else. Everything will be all right if Altig manages to avoid disasters and chalk up a few successes, perhaps even in Munich.

Bernd Dassel

(Die Zeit, 10 March 1972)